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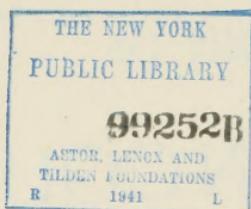
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HISTORY OF
HAMILTON COUNTY
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Volume II

1912
THE S. J. CLARKE PUBLISHING COMPANY
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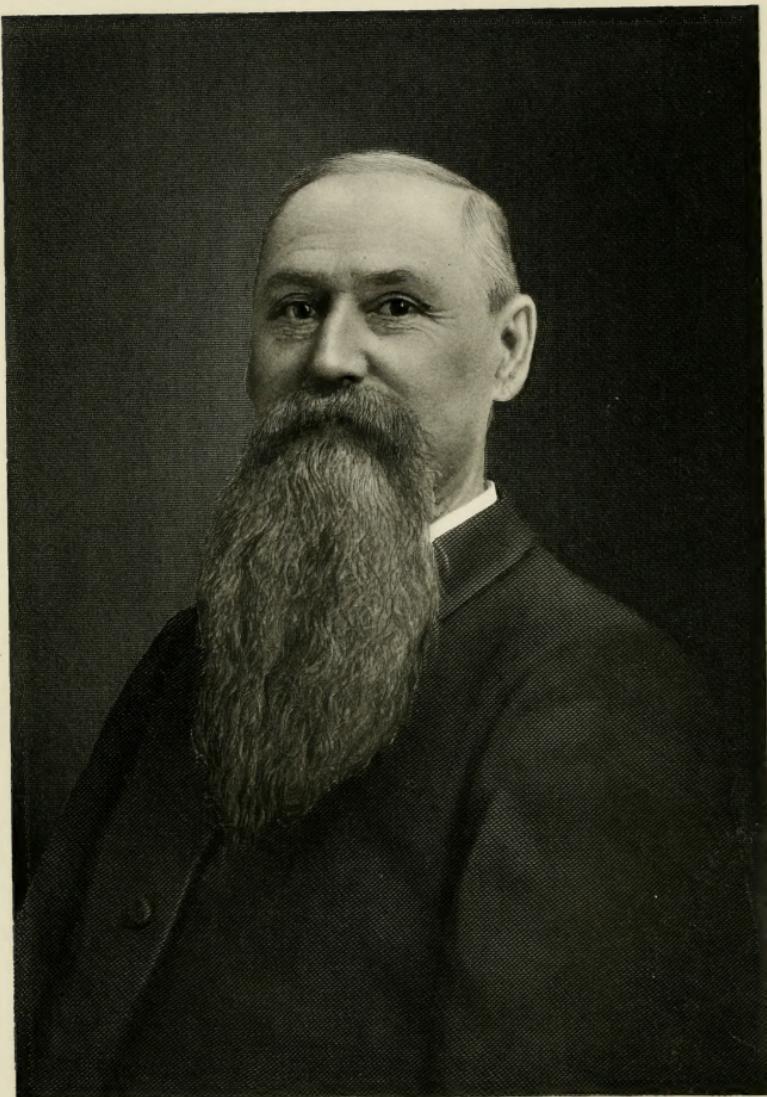


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J.W. Mosley

Biographical

COLONEL GEORGE W. CROSLEY.

Colonel George W. Crosley was born in New Haven, Huron county, Ohio, on March 4, 1839, and moved to Illinois with his parents when he was four years of age and grew to young manhood in that state. He came to Story county, Iowa, in 1856, and assisted his father in improving the farm upon the site where the town of Ames now stands. Two years later he moved to Nevada, the county seat of Story county, and lived in that section until the outbreak of the Civil war. On May 21, 1861, he enlisted in Company E, Third Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and a few days later started out with his company to Keokuk, the rendezvous of the regiment where he was mustered into the service of the United States government as first sergeant. He was subsequently promoted to first lieutenant of his company and later to major of his regiment. He received the brevet rank of lieutenant colonel and later colonel of his regiment for meritorious service in battle. He was active during the entire period of the war and participated in many of the most important engagements. At the close of hostilities he received an honorable discharge and came to Webster City, Iowa, in September, 1865. For a number of years he was engaged in the general merchandise business and served for some time as postmaster under the first Grant administration. Later he was a commercial traveler and afterward engaged in business for six years on the corner east of the Willson House. He took an active interest in politics being an ardent republican but did not become a candidate for any elective office until 1879, when having retired from business, he was nominated and elected sheriff of Hamilton county, which position he held for two terms and was tendered the nomination for a third term but declined. In 1884 he was made warden of the Iowa Penitentiary at Fort Madison and served for six years, returning in 1890 to his home in Webster City. Since that time he has served for six years as a member of the city council and has been actively identified with every movement which had for its object the

best interests of the community and the growth and development of the city which has so long been his home and where he expects to spend the remainder of his life.

In 1907 he took up the work of compiling the "Roster History and Records of Iowa Soldiers." Over four years he was engaged in this great work and spent nearly all his time in the office of the adjutant general of Iowa at Des Moines, in order to have ready access to the military records of the state. The work has been published in six large volumes and constitutes a complete compendium of the military history of Iowa from the time of its admission to the union in 1846. An immense amount of laborious research and investigation which might well have tested the strength of a younger man was involved in the preparation of this work. Since its completion Colonel Crosley has been compelled to retire from active life on account of impaired health.

This sketch is intended to deal only with the important events in the life of its subject without attempting to enter into detail. If asked what was the most important event of his life, Colonel Crosley would promptly reply, "My marriage." Few men have been blessed with so happy a domestic life. While on veteran furlough with his regiment on April 16, 1864, he was united in marriage to Miss Edna M. Risdon, at the home of her parents, in Hopkinton, St. Lawrence county, New York. Four children were born to this union: George R., Charles C., Charlotte E., and Varick C. The second son, Charles C., died when nearing his tenth birthday, but his mother and other children are living to comfort and bless Colonel Crosley in the declining years of his life.

VARICK C. CROSLEY.

Varick C. Crosley was born in Webster City on November 11, 1875, and is a son of Col. and Mrs. G. W. Crosley. His father is one of the prominent and well known residents of this city and is an honored veteran of the Civil war. More extended mention of Col. Crosley is made in the preceding sketch. The subject of this sketch was educated in the public schools of his native city and in 1884 upon the election of his father to the office of warden of the Iowa Penitentiary at Fort Madison he removed with his parents to that city, where he remained until the spring of 1890, pursuing his studies

in the public schools during that time. He returned to Webster City and in 1894 entered the R. N. Woodworth Abstract, Real Estate & Loan office where he remained until the latter part of the year 1898 when he was employed by Hon. J. A. Fitchpatrick who was engaged in the same line of business in Nevada, Iowa. Having received a thorough education in his chosen line of activity Mr. Crosley determined to establish himself in business in his home city. Accordingly he returned to Webster City in the spring of 1900 and at once opened an office. Since then he has by the exercise of honorable business methods and persistent industry secured a large and constantly growing clientage and has well earned his reputation as a substantial and reliable business man. His transactions are not confined to Hamilton county alone, but extend into the adjoining counties and he has established a wide acquaintance throughout the state. His business connections are of the best and highest character. He has attained prosperity by reason of his experience, industry and centralized activity. His investments have been made judiciously and he is now the owner of a highly productive farm of two hundred and forty acres, located about five miles west of Webster City. He also owns much desirable real estate in the community in which he resides and has a pleasant and comfortable home at No. 732 First street. He is one of the stockholders and a member of the board of directors of the Farmers' National Bank and is widely known as a promoter of progressive public enterprises.

He is well known in fraternal circles, holding membership in Acacia Lodge, No. 176, A. F. & A. M., of which organization he is past master. He belongs to the Royal Arch Masons and the Knights Templar of Webster City and is prominent in the affairs of the Za-Ga-Zig Shrine Temple of Des Moines. He belongs to the Webster City Outing Club and holds membership by inheritance from his father in the military order of the Loyal Legion of the United States. He joined the First Congregational church of Webster City at the age of sixteen and still retains his membership. In politics he has affiliated with the republican party since he attained his majority, but is very tolerant toward those who hold different political views from his own. While taking an active interest in local, state and national affairs he has never sought nor held any public office.

On September 15, 1906, Mr. Crosley was united in marriage to Miss Gladys Call Whitley, a daughter of Dr. F. E. and Cora (Call) Whitley, and a granddaughter of Rev. and Mrs. L. N. Call. Mrs. Crosley was born at Traer, Iowa, on October 29, 1883, and is a

graduate of the Webster City high schools and of the State University at Iowa City. Mr. and Mrs. Crosley have one daughter, Mary Eleanor, who was born on October 24, 1908. Our subject and his wife occupy a prominent position in the social and intellectual life of their community and their pleasant home is noted for its hospitality not only among their friends in Webster City but among guests from other towns and cities in the state.

HARTVIG M. SPARBOE.

Webster City has conferred upon Hartvig M. Sparboe the highest honor within her gift, having called him to the office of mayor for the second term. He has been actively and helpfully interested in municipal affairs for a number of years and looks at vital questions relative to the city's upbuilding and the management of its business interests in a practical yet progressive way. His own life history serves as a source of inspiration and encouragement to others, for Mr. Sparboe is a self-educated and self-made man whose advancement is due to the wise use he has made of his time and opportunities and not to any fortunate combination of circumstances. He was born in Norway, March 5, 1867, and was only three years of age at the time of the death of his father, Anthony Sparboe, who passed away in 1870, three days before the birth of his youngest son, leaving the widowed mother, who in her maidenhood bore the name of Bergitte Karoluson, with four sons. In 1873, with her little family, the eldest being then ten years of age and the youngest a little more than two years, she came to the United States and was also accompanied by her mother. After landing on the eastern coast they made their way direct to Hamilton county, Iowa, and settled in Scott township, where Mrs. Sparboe still makes her home upon the farm which was purchased for her by her sons, who display the most filial love and devotion to the mother who made every possible sacrifice during their childhood for their benefit. She has now reached the advanced age of eighty-three years. Her surviving sons are: H. M.; John H., who is living at Ellsworth, Hamilton county, and is a farmer owning four hundred and eighty acres of productive land; and Carl, who owns two hundred and

forty acres near Ellsworth, whereon he is engaged in breeding shorthorn cattle.

The financial condition in which the family was left compelled Hartvig M. Sparboe to work whenever it was possible for him to do so, and thus his educational opportunities were somewhat limited. He pursued his studies during the winter terms of school in Hamilton county but was not satisfied with the education there acquired and bent his effort toward the attainment of means which would enable him to continue his studies. At length he entered St. Olaf's College at Northfield, Minnesota, and afterward the Dexter Normal School at Dexter, Iowa. He thus qualified himself for the profession of teaching, which he followed during the winter months after he reached the age of seventeen years, while the summer seasons were devoted to farm work. The money thus acquired enabled him later to enter Calanan College at Des Moines and he afterward became a student in the Iowa Business College of that city, from which he was graduated in the class of 1890. Later he taught stenography in the Iowa Business College for one year, after which he joined his brother, O. A. B. Sparboe, in opening and conducting a business college in Story City, Iowa, known as the Story City Business College, in 1891. Two years later because of the ill health of the brothers they sold the school and O. A. B. Sparboe traveled for his health but finally passed away in Europe in 1898. Hartvig M. Sparboe went to Minneapolis for hospital treatment and after a two years' residence in that city returned to the home farm in Hamilton county, devoting his attention to general agricultural pursuits until he was appointed deputy county treasurer under P. Mathre. He filled that position from January 1, 1898, until January 1, 1900, but continued to work in the county treasurer's office in collecting delinquent taxes for the county until January 1, 1901. He was then appointed bookkeeper for the First National Bank of Webster City and after two years was made cashier of the Webster City Savings Bank. He acted in the latter capacity for two years and since that time has been continuously engaged in the life insurance business, in which connection he has secured a large clientage.

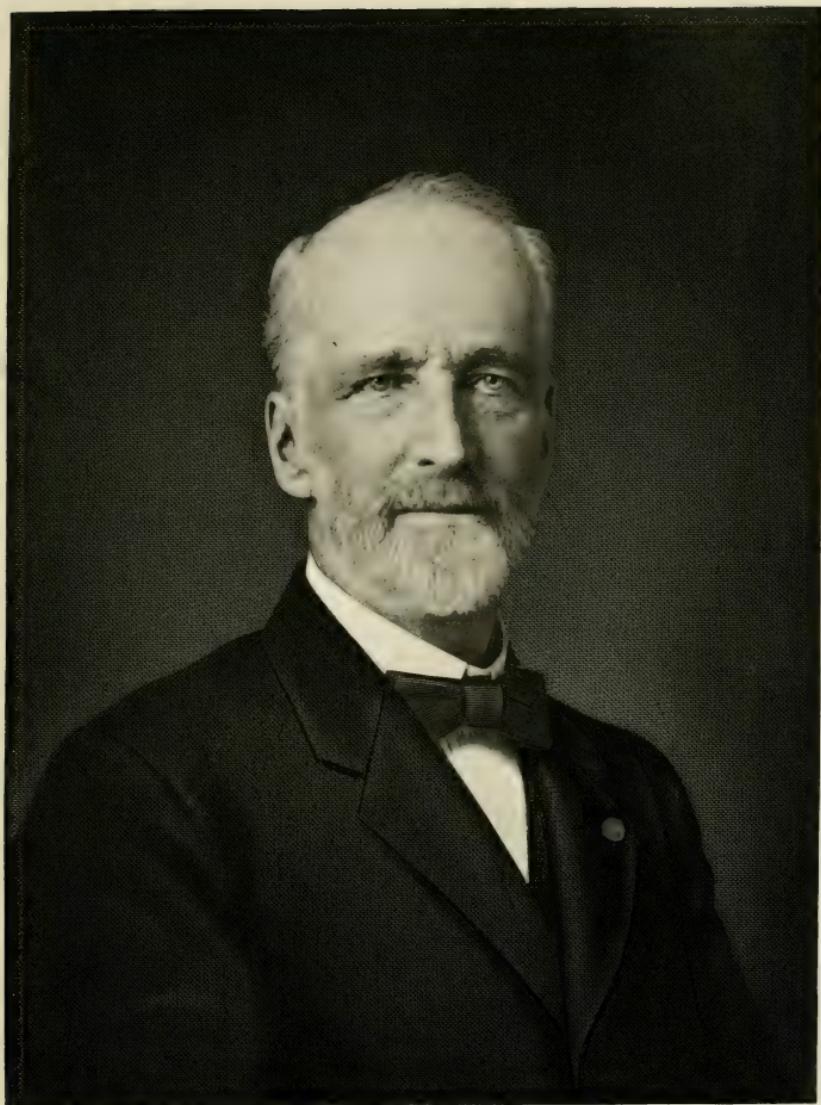
Mr. Sparboe has made an excellent record in public office. He has not only served as deputy county treasurer but in the fall of 1907 was appointed to fill a vacancy in the city council for the term ending April 1, 1909, when, having been elected

mayor, he entered upon that position and at the close of his first term was reelected in 1911. He is therefore the chief executive of the city at the present time. His reelection came to him as the indorsement of the work of his first term, which was characterized by various needed reforms and improvements, with a careful businesslike administration of municipal affairs. He does not bar progress with useless conservatism and yet he carefully safeguards the interests of the city in the matter of public expenditures. He has made an excellent record as president of the Iowa State Drainage Association and is deeply interested in matters relating to the waterways and the conservation interests of the commonwealth.

Mr. Sparboe was married June 3, 1893, in Webster City, to Miss Gertrude Logan, a daughter of Christian Logan, of Roland, Hamilton county, who was one of the pioneers of this part of the state and is still living on the old home farm. Mr. and Mrs. Sparboe had been friends from childhood. They became the parents of four children but their first born, Bergitte, whose birth occurred March 26, 1894, died at the age of four months. The others are: Ole Anthony, born December 26, 1898; Thelma, born May 31, 1901; and Jerome, born January 21, 1904. The family live at No. 1000 Boone street. They attend the Christian Science church, of which Mr. Sparboe is a member, and he furthermore has membership relations with the Country Club and also with the Webster City Commercial League, of which he is the secretary. He is actuated in all that he does by a spirit of enterprise and it is well known that his cooperation can be counted upon to further any movement for the general good. The consensus of public opinion places him in an enviable position in the regard of his fellow townsmen both in his business relations and in his citizenship. He was elected President of Iowa State Drainage Association in 1911, and reelected in 1912.

JULIUS M. JONES.

Julius M. Jones, one of the venerable and highly esteemed citizens of Hamilton county, took up his abode here in the spring of 1856 and has remained within its borders continuously since with the exception of two years' residence in Chicago. He bore his part in the



Julius M Jones
At Eighty Years

work of early development and upbuilding and through the able direction of his business interests won a handsome competence that now enables him to spend the evening of life in well earned ease. For many years he was successfully engaged in general merchandising at Webster City and he likewise held the office of president of the Farmers National Bank, of which institution he was one of the organizers and of which his son is now at the head. His birth occurred in Milford, Massachusetts, on the 16th of February, 1832, his parents being John and Melinda (Chamberlain) Jones, the former of Welsh ancestry. The maternal grandparents of our subject were Nathaniel and Permelia Chamberlain.

Julius M. Jones was reared to manhood on the farm where he was born and supplemented his early education by a course of study in the Milford high school. In the spring of 1856, when a young man of twenty-four years, he came to Iowa and Webster City, becoming a sawyer in the old steam mill that stood on the east side of town, near Bank street, just east of the track of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad. This mill, in which he owned a small interest that he had bought on time, was a factor of the first consequence in the early development and settlement of Webster City and Hamilton county. Mr. Jones worked in the mill until the autumn of 1858, when he was elected clerk of the district court, to which position he was reelected and in which capacity he ably served for six years. As candidate for a third term he received the unanimous vote of the county, and he was nominated without opposition for still another term but the following day received from Abraham Lincoln the appointment of major and paymaster in the army. He was stationed at Louisville, Kentucky, until the cessation of hostilities between the north and the south. Of this period of his life Charles Aldrich has written as follows: "His bond was fifty thousand dollars, which some of his neighbors and friends made up among themselves without any consultation with him. At one time his paymaster's safe contained nearly a million of dollars. In the ordinary discharge of his duties under the government he seldom came into the possession of more than about four hundred thousand dollars; but this large sum was placed in his keeping by one of his old friends who had known Major Jones in his early boyhood—a Mr. Walker, an agent of the state of Ohio, to receive the pay of soldiers in the field and take the money home to their families. Mr. Jones was only individually responsible for the money and its loss would in no way have affected his bondsmen. I mention this fact merely for the pur-

pose of stating how implicitly he was trusted by one who had only known him in years long gone by, as a boy. Walker was compelled to go across with Sherman in the latter's march 'from Atlanta to the sea,' and the money remained in the safe of Paymaster Jones some three months. When Walker finally 'got around' to take charge of his great trust every dollar was forthcoming and the families of Ohio soldiers were only inconvenienced by a few months' delay in receiving their money."

After the close of the war Major Jones was engaged in the wholesale stoneware trade at Chicago for two years, on the expiration of which period he returned to Webster City and has here resided continuously since. For many years thereafter he devoted his attention to general merchandising, being first associated for two years with Kendall Young. After the retirement of the latter he continued in the business for about fifteen years and during the last five years of that period was associated with Cyrus Smith. Owing to failing health he then retired for a time from active business pursuits and devoted his attention to the supervision of his farming interests. In financial circles he was also prominent, being one of the organizers of the Farmers National Bank and directing its affairs as its president until his son, Robert Emmons Jones, became the chief executive officer of the institution. His business record is one of which he has every reason to be proud and he richly deserves the American title of a self-made man. Coming to Webster City with little or no means, he made his way steadily upward by dint of hard labor, close economy and unfaltering perseverance.

On the 4th of March, 1869, Mr. Jones was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Fisher, a native of West Medway, Massachusetts, and the oldest daughter of Elias T. and Martha B. (Ellis) Fisher, of that place. They became the parents of three children, only one of whom is living, Robert Emmons, who is a graduate of the State University of Michigan and who was formerly the vice president of the Farmers National Bank. As above stated, he is now the president of that institution and enjoys an enviable reputation as one of the successful and representative business men of Webster City. Mrs. Jennie (Fisher) Jones passed away at her home in Webster City on the 3d of November, 1909, at the age of sixty-seven years, after a lingering illness. The following is an extract from an obituary notice printed the next day: "Mrs. Jones was a pioneer woman here, widely known and esteemed highly for her many excellent qualities and lovable traits of character. More than two years ago she was taken

with creeping paralysis, which the best of medical assistance could not subdue. She was given treatment in Chicago, but returned home with no hope of recovery. She was a patient and cheerful sufferer, yet the final summons came as a sweet relief." We also quote in part the funeral address of Rev. F. O. Thrush. "* * * We are met here this afternoon dominated by the vision of a Christian character, the vision of one in all the grace and charm of womanhood, who has passed from the scenes of our earthly life. Her going was as the flashing of angels' wings as the shining gates opened and she passed into the heavenly city. Mrs. Jones was born of Christian parents, the daughter of a New England deacon. In that Christian home she grew to womanhood. It is fair to presume that that home was the great force which determined her character and influenced her whole life. At the age of twenty-five she was united in marriage to Julius M. Jones and came to Webster City, where she lived for about forty-two years. She was widely known in the city and entire community.

* * * We remember her as the perfect lady everywhere and always. I use that word 'lady' not in the ordinary and conventional sense. I never mean to use it in that sense, and certainly I could not on this occasion. She had the necessary refinement and gentleness of a true lady. Her refinement and gentleness appeared when meeting the high or the lowly, the rich or the poor, the educated or the un-educated, her social equals or inferiors. Her manner and attitude were always those of the perfect lady. This was the secret of her power to make friends. It has been said that one must be divinely souled in order to make friends and that one so constituted need not pass through life friendless. Then our departed friend must have been divinely souled to an unusual degree, for her friends were legion.

* * * She who presided in this house made it a home—a refuge from life's cares, an inspiration for life's duties, and an inner sanctuary for life's confidences. While such women preside over our homes we need not fear that this sacred institution will lose its power for good. I am certain that it cannot be construed other than fitting that I should speak at this time of her passion for the best things in literature, for there are present here this afternoon those who, for many years, were associated with her in reading and study. About twenty-one years ago a few of the women of Webster City met and organized the Wednesday Club. Mrs. Jones was one of those women, and the club has maintained its organization for more than a score of years, and to the time of her invalidism she was a faithful and diligent reader in all the various departments of work the club under-

took. She thus became widely read in all the best things of literature. * * * As I stand here in this beautiful home, now that she is gone, and have a vision of her who presided here, I am in no sort of doubt of what things are worth while; it is worth while for a woman to be a lady, and a man to be a gentleman; it is worth while to have the friendly nature, so that friends will gather about you to bless you in health, comfort you in sickness, and hold you in affectionate memory when you are gone. It is worth while for a noble man and a pure woman, guided by love, to establish a home and bring up a family, and find in that home the center for all life's activities, and the opportunity for the expression of the very best there is in them. It is worth while to have the trained mind and the cultured heart and spend much time with the great authors, for then you are associating with the true royalty of earth—the men and women who have five talents. It is worth while to seek to develop the spirit of benevolence that looks upon all sentient life as affording an opportunity to do good and bless. It is worth while to live in the faith of things unseen, and not be shut up within the narrow circle of things seen and handled, for life ever looks out upon the Infinite and Eternal. * * * I spoke of Mrs. Jones' desire that 'Thanatopsis' should be read to her. When living, her modest spirit would have resented the application of those last words of the great poem to her life and character. But now that she is gone, we, her friends, gathered in this home consecrated by her pure life and inevitable sufferings, may freely and truthfully make such application:

“ ‘So live that when thy summons comes to join
The innumerable caravan, which moves
To that mysterious realm, where each shall take
His chamber in the silent hall of death
Thou go not, like the quarry-slave at night,
Scourged to his dungeon, but, sustained and soothed,
By an unfaltering trust, approach thy grave,
Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch
About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams.’ ”

The following is a tribute by the Wednesday Club: “Among the many whose hearts have been saddened by the death of Mrs. Jones there are few, surely, who will more truly mourn her than the members of the Wednesday Club; with whom she had been associated for twenty-one years of study and loyal friendship. Her warm interest

in the subjects studied, her friendly spirit, and the rare charms of her nature, made her one of its best beloved members. Life seems poorer when such as she are taken from us, but the benediction of her influence and her dear memory will long be in our hearts a precious heritage."

Major Jones has always given his political allegiance to the republican party and has been honored by his fellow townsmen in election to positions of public trust and responsibility. He was chosen a member of the board of supervisors in 1869 and acted as chairman during his term. In the autumn of 1883 he was elected a member of the Iowa house of representatives for the term of two years. He was very active in behalf of the important temperance legislation of the period, which resulted in the passage of the law totally prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors and which was the foremost topic of the times. His service in public office was always marked by great prudence and efficiency and over the record of his official career there falls no shadow of wrong or suspicion of evil. There are few men whose lives are crowned with the honor and respect which is universally accorded to Major Jones, but through more than a half century's connection with Hamilton county's history his has been an unblemished character. With him success in life has been reached by his sterling qualities of mind and a heart true to every manly principle. He has never deviated from what his judgment would indicate to be right and honorable between his fellowmen and himself. He has never swerved from the path of duty, and now after a long and eventful career he can look back over the past with pride and enjoy the declining years of his earthly pilgrimage with the consciousness of having gained for himself by his honorable, straightforward career the confidence and respect of the entire community in which he lives.

WILLIAM O. McCONNELL.

William O. McConnell, who owns and operates the "Long View Stock & Seed Farm" is not only one of the leading agriculturists of his community, but has for some years been actively identified with the political life of the county, and is now a member of the board of commissioners. He was born in the vicinity of Hooks Point, Hamilton county, on the 26th of August, 1856,

and is a son of Francis J. and Armilla (Cook) McConnell, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of the state of New York. At the age of eight years the father emigrated to the United States, where he was reared and educated and learned the molder's trade, which occupation he followed until he removed to Iowa, when he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. The parents were married in the state of New York and there resided until 1856, when they came to Iowa and settled on some land in the vicinity of Hooks Point. They remained there for about one year and at the expiration of that time, in 1858, Mr. McConnell bought a farm, on what is now section 30, Independence township, on which was a small house constructed from native lumber. He devoted the remainder of his active years to the further improvement and cultivation of this place, which is now the property of our subject. He was one of the foremost citizens of his community and took an active and helpful interest in all public affairs, particularly of a political nature, and served with efficiency for a number of years as coroner and also as official sealer of weights and measures. Both he and the mother passed their latter years on the homestead, his death there occurring on the 14th of December, 1889, and hers on January 17, 1887. They were the parents of six children, our subject being the eldest.

Reared at home, the education of William O. McConnell was begun in the district schools and completed in the Webster City public school, which he attended for three terms. He terminated his student days at the age of eighteen years and began earning his own living. For a year thereafter he engaged in teaching, but at the end of that period he accepted a clerkship in a dry-goods store at Webster City, where he was employed for eighteen months. He subsequently obtained a position in a grain store, but two years later he likewise withdrew from this and resumed his teaching, continuing to be identified with this profession until he was married. Very soon thereafter he and his bride settled on the old homestead, which he operated for a year. He subsequently rented another farm, located elsewhere in the county, where he continued his agricultural pursuits for three years, and then returned to the home place, which he now owns. Mr. McConnell's farm comprises two hundred and twenty-three acres, one hundred and seventy-five of which is tiled and under high

cultivation. His principal crops are corn and oats, a large portion of which he markets, and for several years he has been raising a very superior quality of both cereals for seeding purposes. All of his land is substantially fenced, one hundred and fifty acres of it hog tight, and evidences by its general appearance careful cultivation and systematic supervision. In connection with the cultivation of his fields, Mr. McConnell makes a specialty of the breeding and raising of high-grade Durham cattle, Poland-China hogs and Norman horses. He also buys and prepares cattle for the market and annually feeds all of the hay he raises. He is one of the enterprising and progressive agriculturists of the county and his farm is provided with an excellent equipment. The residence was built by his father in 1879 and as it has always been kept in repair is in good condition and thoroughly comfortable, but the majority of the other buildings have been erected during the ownership of Mr. McConnell. In 1898, he built a barn with a solid rock foundation, fifty-two by sixty-four feet, and five years later he erected another, twenty-six by thirty-two feet, with cement foundation and floors. A drilled well and natural springs provide water for all purposes in both the house and barns. Mr. McConnell is interested in various local enterprises, and owns stock in the First National Bank of Webster City, the Farmers Mutual Telephone Company and the Farmers Elevator Company at Kamrar. He is also a stockholder and promoter, as well as a member of the board of directors of the National Sewer Pipe Company, a recently organized industry. Of recent years he has been acting as agent for The Iowa Mutual Tornado Insurance Company of Des Moines, and The Webster County Mutual Fire Insurance Association.

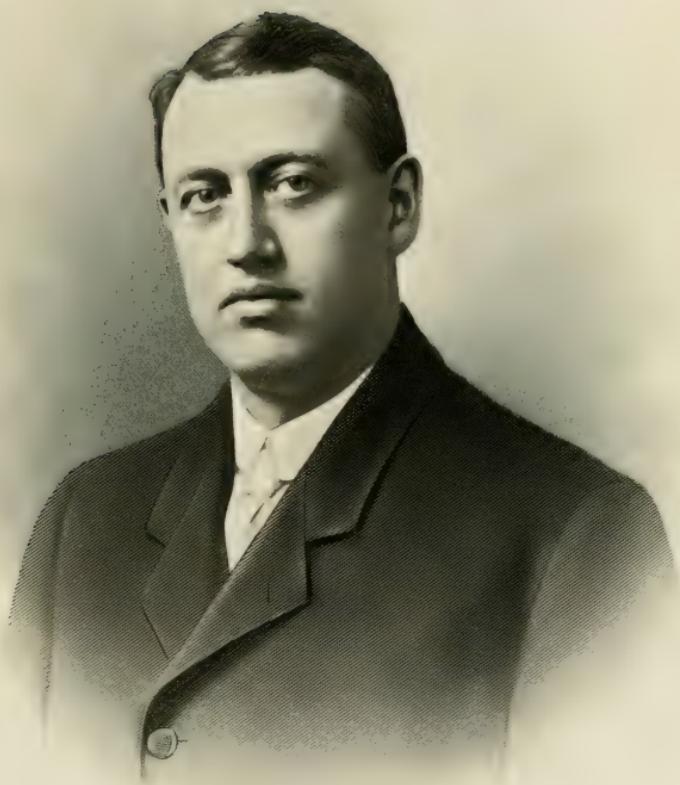
On the 23d of January, 1884, Mr. McConnell was married to Miss Allie Andrus, who was born in the state of New York, May 24, 1865, and is a daughter of John P. and Sarah J. (Crawford) Andrus. The parents were born, reared and married in the Empire state, whence they removed to Iowa in the spring of 1869 and located on a farm of eighty acres east of Webster City. They resided in this county until 1898, when they removed to Fort Dodge, where Mrs. Andrus was killed in a runaway in 1908. The father subsequently went to Tama City and opened a restaurant, which he conducted until March, 1911, when he became a resident of California, where he was married in 1912. Mrs. McConnell, who is the second in order of birth in a family of

five, has become the mother of nine children: Mabel J., who was born in 1884, the wife of Charles Nelson, a farmer of Boone township, by whom she has had two children; Bessie May, who was born on May 17, 1887, and married Chadd Huddlestun, a resident of this county, by whom she has had one child; Frank J., whose birth occurred August 24, 1889, unmarried and living at home; Grace L., who was born on the 19th of November, 1891, engaged in teaching in this county; Harry E., who died in infancy; Amanda P., whose natal day was October 5, 1896; Harold P., who was born on the 15th of August, 1899; Ralph W., whose birth occurred on September 19, 1901; and Earl A., who was born on October 5, 1907. The youngest daughter and the son, Harold, are attending school.

The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and Mr. McConnell is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a republican in politics, and served for a year as township clerk and assessor and for several terms as treasurer of the school board, and he is now a member of the board of county commissioners. Mr. McConnell has led a life of enterprise and well directed activity as is evidenced by the excellent appearance of his farm and his circumstances. That he fully merits the prosperity with which he has been rewarded is generally conceded by his fellow townsmen, who through long years of acquaintance have found him to be a reliable business man, progressive citizen and loyal friend.

R. E. CHANNER.

There is a thriving drug store in Webster City, located at No. 627 Second street, the title of which, "The Big, Busy Drug Store," gives a complete picture of the nature of the enterprise and of the lines along which it is conducted and developed. It is a large and most modern pharmacy and in its prescription department as well as in its more popular lines does a gratifying and constantly increasing business. At its head and directing its policy is R. E. Channer, who founded the enterprise in February, 1911, and whose expert knowledge of drugs combined with his business ability have advanced the concern to its present degree of success. R. E. Channer was born in Utica, New York, September 2, 1874. His parents, John L. and



R. Chamber

Louisa J. (Rowe) Channer, were both natives of London, England, where the family has been established for many generations. Mr. Channer's grandfather was for many years an officer on the London police force, holding the rank of sergeant in that organization and being eventually retired on a pension. The American branch of the family was established about 1849, when John L. Channer left England and came to the United States, settling in Brooklyn, New York. The mother of our subject left London at about the same time and located in the same city. Here their marriage occurred and was immediately followed by their removal to Utica, where the father was engaged as a shoemaker during the remainder of his life. He died in 1909, at the age of eighty-six. His wife is still living and celebrated her eighty-third birthday on December 18, 1912.

Mr. Channer was educated in the public schools of Utica, New York, and even as a boy was interested in the drug business. He was an employe of a local pharmacy when he was scarcely more than a child and the early experience which he thus gained directed his later ambitions and was a valuable asset to him in his life's career. His residence in Iowa began in 1900, when he took a position with the Des Moines Drug Company in Des Moines as city salesman and traveler. He remained in this capacity for two years, eventually severing his connection with the Des Moines Drug Company to take a similar position in the employ of the Iowa Drug Company. His headquarters at this time were in Webster City, and he spent six years in traveling in this vicinity in the interests of his employers. He was ambitious and energetic and always attentive to the details of his business. These qualities won him rapid success and continuous advancement. He saved money and in September, 1908, was able to buy a half-interest in Wise Brothers Drug Store of Webster City. The firm was reorganized and the name changed to the Channer & Wise Drug Company. The influence of Mr. Channer's energetic and capable business methods was soon felt in their developing trade. He gave his entire time and attention to expanding and reorganizing the business along modern and systematic lines and met with a degree of success which was the natural result of his liberal and broad-minded policy. In February, 1911, he purchased the interests of the Wise brothers in the enterprise and conducted the concern independently. His pharmacy is now known as The Big, Busy Drug Store, and fully justifies its name.

On December 18, 1900, Mr. Channer was united in marriage to Miss Emma D. Henning, a daughter of F. H. Henning, of Chicago.

Mrs. Channer is of German lineage and her parents were both born in the fatherland. Her mother is still living in St. Paul, Minnesota, having survived her husband, who passed away in 1910. Mr. and Mrs. Channer are the parents of a daughter, Evelyn Dorothy, born April 22, 1902.

Fraternally Mr. Channer holds membership in Acacia Lodge, No. 176, A. F. & A. M., and belongs to Webster City Lodge, No. 302, B. P. O. E. In the latter organization he held for two years the office of trustee and is now esteemed lecturing knight. He is also prominent in Webster Eagle Council, No. 343, U. C. T., and in Webster City Camp, No. 416, M. W. A. He is well known in social and business circles in Webster City and holds membership in the Country Club and in the Webster City Commercial League, in which organization he is also a director. He attends the Christian Science church and is a firm believer in the principles of that faith. His business life is so intelligently ordered and so quietly efficient and his store is so model an enterprise that Mr. Channer is regarded in Webster City as representative of its business life and a valued addition to its commercial world.

HON. FRANK J. LUND.

The life record of Frank J. Lund stands in contradistinction to the old adage that a prophet is not without honor save in his own country, for in the district in which he was born and reared Frank J. Lund has attained leadership in professional circles and has been accorded honors in political circles. Recognizing and utilizing opportunities and advantages, his course has been marked by continuous progress and without invidious distinction he may be termed one of the foremost citizens of Hamilton county. Within the borders of this county his birth occurred February 5, 1876. His parents, Nels John and Caroline S. (Johnson) Lund, were both natives of Sweden and in 1867 came to America, settling in Hamilton county, where they still reside, their home being at Stratford. The father attained the age of seventy-seven years on the 4th of April, 1912, and the mother passed the seventy-third milestone on life's journey on the 20th of June of the same year. For forty-five years they have been worthy and valued residents of this county and at the present writing the father is enjoying a visit to their native country.

Frank J. Lund pursued his education in the public schools of Marion township and in the Highland Park College at Des Moines, in which he spent a year and a half. He afterward lived upon the home farm at Stratford and engaged in teaching school through the winter months until 1899, while the summer seasons were devoted to the work of the fields. In September of that year he was made deputy county clerk of Hamilton county and served until the fall of 1900. He then accepted a clerical position with the Hon. Varick C. Crosley in the abstract business and continued with him until the spring of 1904, when he entered the office of Hon. J. L. Kamrar for the practice of law. He had previously studied in the office of Jesse W. Lee of Webster City and was admitted to the bar by the supreme court of Iowa in 1901. While pursuing his law course he had been engaged in other duties, giving only his leisure hours to his preparation for the profession. That his studies were thorough and systematic is indicated in the success which has since come to him. He remained in the office of Mr. Kamrar until elected county clerk in November, 1904. He entered upon the duties of the position on the 1st of January, 1905, and that he proved capable and faithful is manifest in the fact that he was reelected in 1906 and again in 1908, thus serving for three consecutive terms and retiring from the office on the 1st of January, 1911. In the previous November he was elected to the state legislature from Hamilton county and took his seat in the house when it convened in January, 1911, so that he is now representing his district in the halls of legislation. He was made chairman of the county and township organizations committee and is a member of the committees on judiciary, ways and means, railroads and transportation, printing, congressional districts, food and dairy, commerce and trade, enrolled bills and public charities. He has always been a stalwart advocate of the republican party and is thoroughly informed concerning the vital questions and issues of the day. He gives careful consideration to matters which come up for settlement before the legislature and is putting forth every effort to uphold and promote the welfare of the state. While loyal to republican interests, he does not believe in any blind following of party leadership and therefore has acquainted himself with all questions that relate to the interests of the commonwealth. Aside from his activity as a member of the bar and in political circles he is known as a representative of financial interests in Webster City as one of the directors and the vice president of the Security Title & Loan Company.

There is also an interesting military chapter in the life history of Frank J. Lund, who in April, 1900, joined Company C of the Fifty-sixth Regiment of the Iowa National Guard and on the 28th of January, 1908, was commissioned captain of his company. As its commander he has maintained a high standard of efficiency and discipline and has the warm regard of those who serve under him. His fraternal connections are with Webster City Lodge, No. 302, B. P. O. E.; Elmo Lodge, No. 62, I. O. O. F.; and Webster City Camp, No. 416, M. W. A. He is also a member of the Country Club and of the Webster City Commercial League.

On the 14th of February, 1900, Mr. Lund was married to Miss Grace E. Bishop, a daughter of Joseph A. Bishop, who came to this state from McLean county, Illinois, in 1891. He still resides with his wife in Webster City and was formerly a farmer and hotel proprietor here. Mr. and Mrs. Lund have three children, as follows: Herbert W., who was born on the 23d of July, 1901; Evelyn, whose birth occurred on the 6th of February, 1907; and Stewart Helmer Murphy, whose natal day was July 20, 1911. The parents have an attractive home near Webster City, and their circle of friends is extensive. Mr. Lund possesses those qualities which not only win popularity but also maintain it. Geniality and unfeigned cordiality are with him supplementary characteristics to strong professional ability and patriotic citizenship. His life work spells duty and yet he is not one who regards duties as a burden that must be borne or a task that must be performed, but rather as a matter of interest and the accomplishment thereof as a matter of pride and pleasure. His life record is indeed well known to his fellow citizens among whom he has always lived, and they hold him in highest regard.

H. F. ALLEN.

H. F. Allen, who is one of the estimable citizens of Blairsburg, has passed the greater part of his life in this vicinity, having called Hamilton county his home for more than forty years. He is a native of the state of New York, his birth having occurred at Oxford, Chenango county, May 31, 1864. His parents, S. J. and Nancy (Davis) Allen, were likewise natives of the Empire state. During the early childhood of our subject the family removed from Chenango to Madison county, coming from there to Iowa. Their desti-

nation was Webster City, where they arrived on the 4th of March, 1870. Their first home in the county was on a farm a mile east of Webster City, where the father continued his agricultural pursuits for ten years. From there they went to a place a mile south of Blairsburg, where they resided for a long period. Both parents are deceased, the father having passed away in Wright county in 1893, at the age of seventy-two years, while the mother, whose death occurred in Liberty township, this county, in 1888, was sixty-three at the time of her demise. To them were born five children, of whom our subject is the youngest. In order of birth the others are as follows: Mrs. Sarah Jane Countryman, deceased, whose husband was steward of the poor farm for eight years, having been the first to fill that office; George R., who is residing in Minnesota; Carrie, who died at the age of twenty years; and Mrs. Clara Fisher, who passed away in 1900.

The first six years in the life of H. F. Allen were passed in his native state. His boyhood and youth were not unlike those of other lads living in this section of Iowa thirty years ago. At the usual age he began his education in the schools of his home district, completing his course of study in Webster City. He was reared in very much the same manner as the sons of other farmers, his youthful energies early being directed along agricultural lines. When not in school his time was largely spent in the fields, but his tastes were purely mechanical and he found his greatest pleasure working with tools. Therefore, when old enough to decide upon a vocation he resolved to become a carpenter and subsequently began his period of apprenticeship in this trade. He is also a capable paper hanger and painter, but he has never followed these occupations regularly, confining his energies to his own trade. A skillful artisan and trustworthy and reliable in his methods, Mr. Allen subsequently extended the scope of his activities by engaging in contracting. He has met with a fair measure of success, owns a comfortable and well furnished residence in Blairsburg and is acquiring a comfortable competence.

Mr. Allen was married in 1899 to Miss Bertha May Wilson, who was born in Missouri, her natal day being the 14th of August, 1874. Her father, Isaac Wilson was born in Maryland, April 24, 1824, while the mother's birth occurred in Canada on the 15th of August, 1834. They came to Hamilton county when Mrs. Allen, who is the youngest in a family of nine, was a month old. In order of birth the other children were as follows: Elizabeth Jane, who was born on the 6th of February, 1854, and died June 30, 1863; Jeanette La-

mont, who was born October 20, 1855, and died on the 25th of March, 1876; Mrs. Lucy Agnes Hogan-Hohlwegler, who was born on the 5th of May, 1857, and is residing in Ellendale, North Dakota; David Carlton, who was born February 14, 1859, and died July 1, 1863; Joseph Lincoln, whose birth occurred on the 18th of November, 1860, now a resident of Webster City; Mrs. Lillie Daugherty, who was born June 20, 1863, a resident of Ellendale, North Dakota; Minty May, who was born on the 20th of June, 1870, and died March 16, 1872; and George Sears, who was born on the 18th of December, 1871, and died September 11, 1873. The first five were natives of Illinois and the last named of Missouri. The father, who was a farmer, was for many years identified with the agricultural interests of Hamilton county, but he was living in Blairsburg at the time of his death, which occurred January 20, 1905. The mother passed away on March 12, 1900.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen are Congregationalists in religious faith, and assist in the work of the various organizations of the local church of that denomination. He belongs to the Blairsburg camp of the Modern Woodmen of America and was formerly a member of the Odd Fellows lodge of Webster City. Politically he is a republican and was a member of the election board at the time of the incorporation of Blairsburg. He takes an active interest in local affairs and for three years represented his ward in the town council. Mr. and Mrs. Allen are well informed people of liberal views and practical ideas. They are well known in this vicinity, where they have passed the greater part of their lives, and have a large circle of friends.

WILLIAM HANLEN:

Among the well known and public-spirited pioneers of Williams must be mentioned William Hanlen, who was one of the incorporators of the town as well as a member of its first council, and has for thirty-three years been actively identified with local business interests. He was born in Richland county, Ohio, on December 2, 1846, and is the eldest son and second child born to Samuel and Anna (Shields) Hanlen. The father was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, and died in Tama county, Iowa, but the mother was a native of Richland county, Ohio, and passed away in Kansas in 1909, at the venerable age of eighty-seven years. In the early youth of our sub-

ject the father came to Iowa and purchased an improved farm of eighty acres in Linn Grove township, Cedar county. He had unlimited confidence in the agricultural possibilities of the state and subsequently extended his holdings until he held title to five hundred acres of land, having the largest land interests of almost any one in that section of the state. There were nine children born to Mr. and Mrs. Hanlen, those beside our subject being as follows: Elizabeth, the deceased wife of O. M. Haney; John, who is a resident of Texas; James, of South Dakota; Robert, of Oregon; Ella, who married H. Eldredge, of Kansas; Christopher, deceased; Albert, who is living in Newton, Kansas; and Frank, who is a resident of Astoria, Oregon. All but the two eldest, who are natives of Richland county, Ohio, were born in Cedar county, Iowa.

The boyhood and youth of William Hanlen were passed on the old homestead in Cedar county, his education being obtained in the district schools of Linn Grove township. In 1879, he came to Hamilton county and established a general mercantile store at Williams, which he conducted with increasing success until 1895. In the latter year he disposed of his store and engaged in the real-estate and insurance business, with which he is still identified.

On the 27th of January, 1877, Mr. Hanlen was married to Miss Eva Curyea, who was born in Henry county, Illinois, June 12, 1859, and is a daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Irwin) Curyea. The parents, who were natives of Virginia, came to Henry county during the pioneer days. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Curyea numbered eight, those besides the wife of our subject being: Margaret, Bell, John, Thomas, Nettie, Louis and Addie, all of whom are living with the exception of Nettie, who died in Kansas.

Mr. and Mrs. Hanlen are the parents of the following children: Mabel, who was born June 4, 1878, the wife of T. D. Rutledge, of Blairsburg, Iowa; Clea, a resident, of San Francisco, California, whose birth occurred in December, 1880; Addie, who was born February 2, 1882, a resident of Williams; Maude, who was born November 27, 1884, the wife of F. A. Gillette, of Des Moines, Iowa; Bessie, who was born January 4, 1886; Frank, whose natal day was September 8, 1890; Earl born May 27, 1894; Clella, born September 30, 1896; and Janice, born October 31, 1899. All are residing in Williams, where they were born with the exception of the eldest daughter, whose birth occurred in Tama county. Mr. Hanlen owns his residence, which is one of the social centers of the town, its hospitality being extended to a large circle of acquaintances.

Mr. Hanlen gives his political support to the republican party and during the period of his residence in Williams has served as a member of the council and also as justice of the peace, having discharged his duties in both connections in a highly creditable manner.

RUBE McFERREN.

Rube McFerren needs no introduction to the readers of this volume, for he has been a lifelong resident of Hamilton county save for a brief period of two years. Determining to devote his life to the practice of law, he has made continuous progress in his profession through close application, thorough preparation and devotion to his clients' interests. He was born January 31, 1868, about a mile north of Webster City, representing one of the old families of the county. His father, W. D. McFerren, came from Ohio to Iowa in 1855, settling in Hamilton county, where he secured a tract of land and began farming. For many years he successfully carried on general agricultural pursuits but is now living retired in Webster City at the age of eighty-three years. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Emma A. Bennett, passed away July 4, 1902, when sixty-seven years of age.

Rube McFerren was educated in the public schools of Webster City, in the State Normal School at Cedar Falls and in the Iowa State University at Iowa City. In this liberal training he laid the broad foundation upon which he has builded his professional knowledge. He began reading law in the office of Wesley Martin of Webster City and was admitted to the bar by the supreme court of Iowa in 1890, at which time he entered upon the active work of the profession. In 1895 he went to Lamar, Missouri, where he engaged in the real-estate business for two years and then returned to Webster City, where he entered into partnership with J. W. Lee for the practice of his profession. A year later this connection was dissolved and Mr. McFerren has since been alone. He has remained a close and discriminating student of the principles of jurisprudence and in his work before the courts has displayed a comprehensive understanding of legal principles, readily seeing their relation to the points in litigation. For about two years, from 1907 until 1909, he served as city attorney.



P. M. Ferney.

On the 4th of November, 1893, Mr. McFerren married Miss Minnie Woolsey, of Webster City, who died August 30, 1896. In April, 1903, he was united in marriage to Miss Minnie Klockman, her father being Christ Klockman, an agriculturist of Hamilton county. By his second wife Mr. McFerren has four children, as follows: Donald, whose birth occurred in December, 1904; Robert, born in May, 1907; Maynard, born in September, 1908; and June, born April 3, 1912.

In his fraternal relations Mr. McFerren is well known, being a member of Acacia Lodge, No. 176, F. & A. M.; Elmo Lodge, No. 62, I. O. O. F.; Webster City Lodge, No. 302, B. P. O. E.; and Forest Camp, No. 103, of the Woodmen of the World. Always living in this district save for the brief period spent in Missouri, Mr. McFerren has become widely known and has a circle of friends who speak of him in terms of high regard. He has always been interested in matters of progressive citizenship and his public spirit has been manifest in many tangible ways.

W. F. HUNTER.

W. F. Hunter, secretary and treasurer of the Freeman-Tribune Publishing Company, was born in Eldorah, Iowa, June 9, 1863, a son of J. D. and Sarah A. (Gates) Hunter, both of whom were natives of Ohio. His paternal grandfather was a newspaper man in Angola, Steuben county, Indiana, and was a very prominent advocate of the abolition cause, utilizing his paper as a factor in advocating his belief. He was a candidate for congress in Indiana on the abolition ticket, and he gave direct evidence of his opposition to slavery by making his home a station on the famous underground railroad, whereby many a slave was assisted on his way to freedom in the north. After some years' residence in Indiana he returned to Ohio. His son, J. D. Hunter, became a resident of Iowa in 1857, at which time he settled in Eldorah and purchased the Eldorah Ledger. In 1866 he came to Webster City and purchased the Hamilton Freeman. He was, thereafter, identified with newspaper interests here until his death and in 1900 he consolidated the Freeman with the Tribune, which has since been published under the name of the Freeman-Tribune. He kept in touch with progressive journal-

ism in his search for news and made his paper both the mirror and the molder of public opinion. He passed away in 1907 at the age of seventy-three years and is still survived by his widow, who makes her home in Webster City.

W. F. Hunter, whose name introduces this record, was educated in the public schools to the age of fifteen years, when he began learning more difficult lessons in the school of experience. He entered his father's newspaper office, gradually acquainting himself with the business in principle and detail, and in 1900 took full charge. He has since continued at the head of the paper and is now the secretary and treasurer of the company. This is one of the old newspapers of Hamilton county, having been established in 1857, and has ever maintained a foremost position as a leading journal in this part of Iowa. In addition to his publishing business, Mr. Hunter is a director of the Webster City Savings Bank and is the owner of the Brenneck block. His real-estate holdings likewise include about six hundred acres of valuable land in Iowa, which contribute much to his success.

In 1887 Mr. Hunter was united in marriage to Miss Aletta Young, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Young. Her death occurred in 1891 and in 1900 Mr. Hunter was again married, his second union being with Miss Minnie Pettinger, the daughter of Nicholas Pettinger, a farmer of this county. They now have two children, Ruth, born in 1904; and Gayle in 1907. The family reside at No. 1219 Des Moines street, and the parents are widely and favorably known in this city, where the name of Hunter has long been an honored and respected one.

D. L. HUNTER.

D. L. Hunter, the vice president and manager of the Freeman-Tribune Publishing Company of Webster City, was born at West Unity, Ohio, May 27, 1854. In his boyhood, however, he came with his parents to Iowa and continued his education in the high school here. He made his initial step in business as a clerk in a clothing store and later entered his father's newspaper office. In 1872 he was appointed assistant postmaster, which position he continued to fill for sixteen years. Since 1892 he has devoted his time continuously to newspaper publica-

tion and is now vice president and manager of the Freeman-Tribune Company, owners of one of the oldest newspapers in this part of the state. He is careful and systematic in the management of the business affairs of the company and, like his brother, holds to high standards in giving to the public that which is most interesting concerning local affairs and matters of state and national importance.

In 1875 Mr. Hunter was united in marriage to Miss Lunetta Burden, a daughter of G. W. Burden, at that time proprietor of the Willson Hotel in Webster City. They have become parents of three children: Litta, who is the wife of Richard Closson and resides at Sholes, Nebraska; Margery Belle, the wife of T. M. Smiley, of Washington, D. C., by whom she has one son; and John D., who was born in 1896 and is still with his parents. The family residence is at No. 626 First street, Webster City.

Mr. Hunter is a member of the Modern Woodmen Camp, the Legion of Honor and the Webster City Commercial League. He is a progressive and public-spirited man, interested in all that pertains to the general welfare and his ideas concerning progress and improvement are of a practical character.

REV. CHRISTEN H. HJORTHOLM.

Rev. Christen H. Hjortholm, pastor of West Trinity Norwegian Lutheran church of Ellsworth, was born in Denmark on the 30th of April, 1865, and is a son of Hans J. Hanson and Dorothy Christensen. The parents were born, reared and married in Denmark, whence they emigrated to the United States in 1866, locating in Columbia county, Wisconsin. The father, who was a farmer, there engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1882, when he removed with his family to Brown county, South Dakota, where he filed on a homestead. He engaged in the improvement and cultivation of his farm until his death, which occurred on May 25, 1901, at the age of sixty-six years. He was survived by the mother, who passed away on the 19th of December, 1905, in her sixty-third year. They were the parents of thirteen children, our subject being the second in order of birth.

Mr. Hjortholm was in his infancy when his parents emigrated to the United States, and a youth of seventeen years when he ac-

companied them on their removal to South Dakota. In the acquirement of his education he attended the public schools and later became a student in The St. Olaf Academy and College. Having decided to adopt the ministry for his life vocation, after graduating from the latter institution he matriculated in the Lutheran Theological Seminary of the United Norwegian Lutheran church of America, then located in Minneapolis but now in St. Paul. He was ordained in 1896, and soon thereafter he went to Monona county, Iowa, where his first pastorate was located. He remained there for four years, and at the expiration of that time accepted a call from Zion Norwegian Lutheran church in Duluth, Minnesota. In 1904, he resigned this charge to become pastor of West Trinity, the duties of which he is still discharging. He has a large parish, and during the period of his pastorate has greatly endeared himself to the members of his congregation by the efficient and capable manner in which he has directed its interests.

In 1889, Mr. Hjortholm was married to Miss Caroline Lobenstein, a daughter of John and Anna Lobenstein, natives of Norway, who came to America in 1851. They were married in Wisconsin, and soon thereafter removed to Minnesota, where the father passed away in 1862. He was long survived by the mother, whose death occurred in 1902. Mrs. Hjortholm, who is the second in order of birth in a family of three, was born on the 14th of December, 1859. A son and a daughter have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hjortholm. The former, Herman, was graduated from St. Olaf's Academy of Northfield, Minnesota, with the class of 1911 and is now teaching in Hamilton county, and Anna, their daughter, is a student in the public school.

His political support Mr. Hjortholm accords to the republican party. He is a man of high standards of citizenship and progressive ideas, whose energies are largely expended in promoting the general welfare of the community.

GEORGE C. TUCKER.

George C. Tucker, president of the Journal Publishing Company and thus closely identified with newspaper publication in Webster City and also equally well known in his support of and cooperation with many public movements which have for their object the wel-

fare and benefit of the city, was born October 27, 1879, in Homer, Hamilton county, Iowa. A year later the family moved to Stratford and in 1887 came to Webster City. His grandfather, Dr. Tucker, was a pioneer physician from Wisconsin, who at a very early period in the settlement and development of Hamilton county took up his abode near Randall. His son, George F. Tucker, now a successful practicing attorney of Webster City, married Emma Faus and among their children is the subject of this review.

Having graduated from the public schools of Webster City, George C. Tucker entered the Iowa State University and was nineteen years of age when he took up the profession of teaching, which he followed through the season of 1898-9. He afterward filled the position of clerk in the Webster City postoffice for about one year and in 1901 entered upon active connection with newspaper interests in the publication of the Freeman Tribune. He was solicitor for that paper for one winter and was then transferred to the reportorial staff, with which he was connected until November 1, 1906. At that date, in connection with C. H. Haeger he purchased the Webster City Journal and organized the Journal Publishing Company, of which he became the president and editor with C. H. Haeger as the secretary and treasurer. The paper pursues a progressive policy, keeping in touch with modern journalism in its presentation of the news and vital questions of the day. The Journal is attractive in its makeup and because of its large circulation is an excellent advertising medium.

On the 17th of September, 1902, Mr. Tucker was united in marriage to Miss Grace Stuart, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Stuart, of Webster City, belonging to one of the old pioneer families of Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Tucker have one son, Courtney Stuart, born August 20, 1905. The family residence is a hospitable one and its good cheer is greatly enjoyed by their many friends. Mr. Tucker is prominent in the Elks lodge, No. 302, and is now serving for the third term as secretary, having been first elected in 1910. He likewise belongs to Elmo Lodge, No. 62, I. O. O. F., of Webster City and to Webster City Camp, No. 416, M. W. A. He is in hearty sympathy with the principles of those organizations and is equally loyal in the advocacy of the republican party. Everything which tends to promote the welfare and upbuilding of Webster City is of deep interest to him and in personal effort as well as through the press he has done much for his home community. For five years he was a member of the board of directors of the Webster City

Chautauqua Association and in 1911 and 1912 served as president. Through this agency many speakers and attractive entertainments have been brought to Webster City, much being of educational value. Mr. Tucker likewise has served several years as a director of the Webster City Commercial League, and is thus active in the efforts to advance the business interests here.

PETER J. BRANDRUP.

Peter J. Brandrup is the treasurer and manager of the Northwestern Felt Shoe Manufacturing Company and has thus reached a prominent position in the business circles of Webster City. He has gradually worked his way upward since starting out in the business world on his own account, his energy and enterprise overcoming various obstacles. He has never regarded any position as final but rather as the starting point for still other achievements and while advancing his individual interests, he has at the same time promoted public prosperity. He was born in Germany in 1871, a son of Claus and Marie (Nelson) Brandrup. The parents came from the fatherland to the United States in 1872 and settled in Webster City, where the father engaged in contracting in stone and bridge work until about 1877. He was then made sexton of the Webster City cemetery and still fills that position, although now seventy-two years of age. His wife is also living and is about sixty-three years of age.

Brought to Iowa in his infancy, Peter J. Brandrup has practically spent his entire life in Webster City. He attended the public schools and in 1886, when a youth of fifteen years, went to Story City, Iowa, where he occupied the position of assistant postmaster until 1888. Realizing the necessity and value of a business education, he then entered the Gem City Business College at Quincy, Illinois, and was graduated therefrom in 1889. Thus well trained for the responsibilities of a commercial career, he returned to Webster City and secured the position of bookkeeper in the grocery store of H. A. Eames. About a year later he became connected with Ellingson, Mathre & Company, wholesale dealers in butter, eggs and poultry. A year was spent with that firm as bookkeeper and in 1891 he went to Kamrar, where he became a partner in the firm of Bohning & Brandrup, gen-

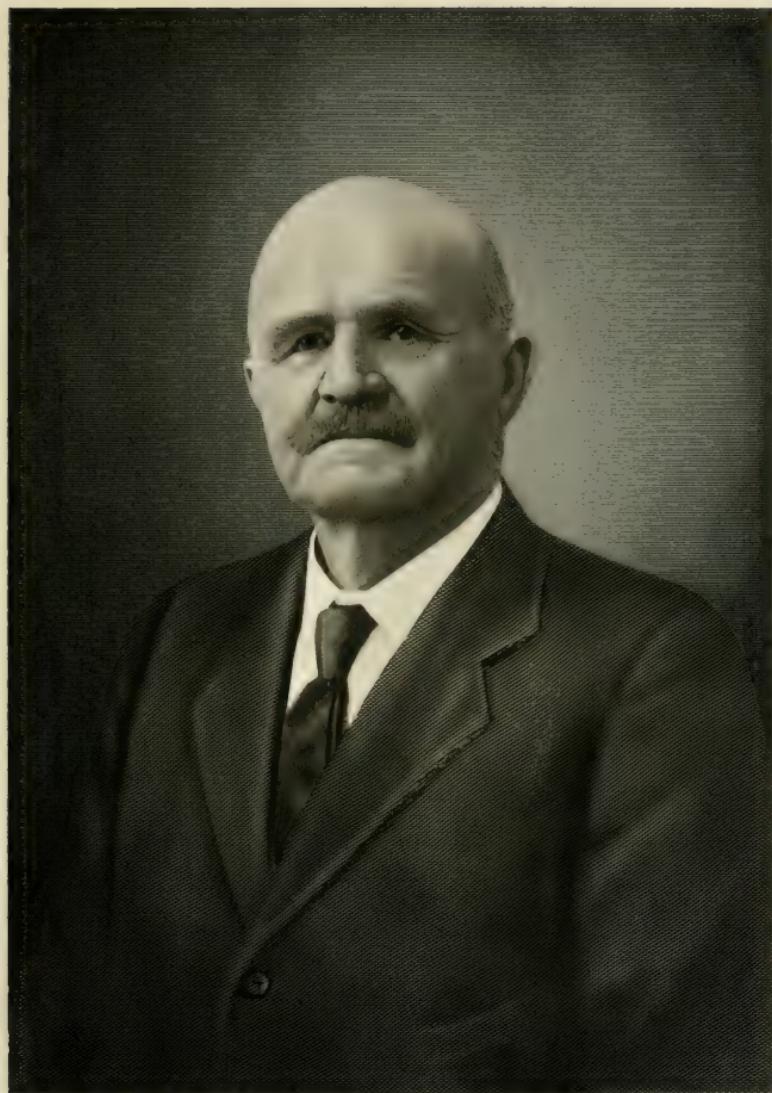
eral merchants. The following year, however, he disposed of his interest to his partner and returned to his old home. Here he again entered the employ of Ellingson, Mathre & Company, taking charge of their office. He remained with the firm for four years and then went upon the road, selling groceries for the Webster City Wholesale Grocery Company, which he represented until they discontinued business in 1897. He then became a traveling representative of the Fort Dodge Wholesale Grocery Company, with whom he continued until elected to the office of county treasurer in 1903. He entered upon the duties of that position on the 1st of January, 1904, and was custodian of the public funds through four years, making a creditable record in the office. He was financially interested in the Northwestern Felt Shoe Company before his retirement from the position of county treasurer and after his term had expired he became actively connected with the company as treasurer and manager. He has since bent his energies to organization, constructive effort and executive control and his sound business judgment and unfaltering application have constituted valuable elements in the success of the business. He was also one of the organizers of the Webster City Gas Company and from its inception served as a director and treasurer until October, 1910. He was also one of the organizers of the Security Title & Loan Company and is still a director and its treasurer. He is furthermore connected with financial interests as a director of the Webster City Savings Bank. Alert and enterprising, possessing what for want of a better term has been called commercial sense, he has assisted in the development of many of the different manufactories and industrial enterprises of Hamilton county and has labored for the welfare of the business interests at large as a director of the Webster City Commercial League since its organization in 1909. He was also its first president and succeeded in placing the association upon a good working basis, its organized efforts being productive of most desirable results.

In November, 1901, Mr. Brandrup was married to Miss Ida Baldwin, a daughter of William Baldwin, of Chariton, Iowa, who follows the occupation of carpentering. Our subject and his wife have two children, namely: Richard R., who was born on the 10th of January, 1903; and Carol Frances, whose natal day was March 16, 1907. The family residence is at No. 908 First street and its hospitality is greatly enjoyed by their many friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Brandrup hold membership in the Universalist church and he also a prominent Mason, belonging to Acacia Lodge, No. 176, F. & A. M.; Hope Chapter, No. 88, R. A. M.; and Triune Commandery, No. 41, K. T., of which he is a past eminent commander. He is likewise a charter member of Za-Ga-Zig Temple of the Mystic Shrine at Des Moines, having previous to its organization been made a Shriner in El Kahir Temple of Cedar Rapids. Both he and his wife are identified with Sharon Chapter, No. 148, O. E. S., and he belongs likewise to the Elks lodge, No. 302; and Webster City Camp, No. 416, M. W. A., of which he has been banker for the past ten years and is still holding that office. He was also a member of the Knights of Pythias for a number of years or until it was disbanded about fifteen years ago. He is well known and popular in these different organizations and is ever most loyal to their teachings and purposes. At the same time he is ever mindful of business duties and responsibilities and of his obligations of citizenship. His carefully systematized efforts leave him time for all these different activities and for those social pleasures which constitute a well adjusted balance to the more serious affairs of life.

FLORINGTON D. YOUNG.

Florington D. Young has figured conspicuously and honorably in trade circles in Webster City. He was for a long period connected with the lumber business and as the years passed his energy and capably directed efforts brought him success, permitting him at length to retire from active business connections. At the age of seventy-six, therefore, he is spending his time quietly in Webster City yet keeps in touch with the general interests of the day and is thoroughly informed concerning the problems which are of vital significance to the individual and the community. He was born in Eden, Hancock county, Maine, October 1, 1836, the son of Elvin and Mary (Hopkins) Young. The father was a farmer and lumberman of the Pine Tree state, in which he spent his entire life, having been born and reared on Mount Desert island, now Bar Harbor. He died at the advanced age of eighty-seven years and his wife had also reached that age when she was called to her final rest. The latter was a descendant of the Hopkins family whose American progenitor came to the new world on the *Mayflower*.



F. D. Young

Florington D. Young was educated at home save for six months spent as a pupil in the country schools of Maine. When he had attained his majority, in 1857, he began to learn the trade of house carpentering, serving his apprenticeship with a salary of twelve dollars per month. When the term of his indenture was over he went to Boston, Massachusetts, where he remained for two years, working for a dollar or a dollar and a half per day until the fall of 1860, when he returned home. While in Boston he cast his first presidential vote, supporting Abraham Lincoln.

Following his return home Florington D. Young worked for his father in the lumber woods during the winter months and in the spring of 1861 went to Magdalen island for a boat load of herring. He then engaged in the fishing business, fishing for Porgies & Menhaden until September, 1862, when he put aside all business and personal considerations in order to actively engage in support of the Union cause. He enlisted for the war as a member of the Twenty-sixth Maine Volunteers and served for a year. On his return home he worked at the carpenter's trade, remaining in the Pine Tree state until the spring of 1874, when his uncle, Kendall Young, induced him to come to Webster City and erected a residence for him. F. D. Young arrived here on the 4th of June, 1874. In the fall of the following year he established a lumberyard under his own name and so continued until 1884, when he was joined by J. W. Young under the firm style of F. D. & J. W. Young. This connection was maintained uninterruptedly for eleven years, or until 1895, when the senior member sold his interest to his partner. In 1901 F. D. Young went to the south, spending a year in Louisiana and seven years in Texas, where he engaged in the cultivation of rice. He then disposed of his interests in that state and returned to Webster City, where he has since made his home. When his uncle, Kendall Young, died, he was made a trustee of the Kendall Young library under the provisions of the will, was chosen chairman of its board of trustees and still holds that position.

In February, 1864, occurred the marriage of Mr. Young and Miss Mary J. McFarland, a daughter of Moses and Mary (Eaton) McFarland, of Hancock county, Maine. Her father was a ship carpenter and took part in the Aroostook war in Maine, being captain of his company and receiving from the government in addition to his pay a grant of land in Iowa, which he converted into money. Kendall Young, however, who was in the same company, retained his allotment of land, which in time proved to be very valuable and is

now the property of the library board according to the terms of the will which he left. Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Young became the parents of three children. Arletta, who married W. F. Hunter, of Webster City, died in 1891. Elvin A., born January 22, 1872, married Esther Welch and now resides in Kansas City, Missouri, being editor of the Kansas City Weekly Journal. During the Spanish-American war he served as a member of the Fifty-sixth Iowa Volunteers. Alene, born June 11, 1884, is the wife of Max Whitacre, formerly of New Sharon, Iowa, but now of Des Moines, where he is connected with the Des Moines Bridge & Iron Company. They have one daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. Young make their home at No. 1201 Des Moines street. Mr. Young figured for many years as a prominent business man. He did not allow commercial pursuits to monopolize his time to the exclusion of all other interests and duties. He was at one time captain of Company C of the Sixth Iowa National Guard, now the Fifty-sixth Regiment. He has been very prominent in fraternal circles, holding membership in Acacia Lodge, No. 176, F. & A. M.; Hope Chapter, No. 88, R. A. M.; and Triune Commandery, No. 41, K. T. He is a past master of the lodge, past high priest of the chapter, and past eminent commander of the commandery. He is also a member of Elmo Lodge, No. 62, I. O. O. F., in which he has passed through all the chairs. He belongs to the Country Club and is one of Webster City's valued and esteemed residents who for thirty-eight years has made his home here and throughout the entire period has enjoyed the good-will and confidence of his fellow townsmen. His has been a well spent life in which activity and enterprise have led the way to prosperity.

OLE O. EITTREIM, JR.

Ole O. Eittreim, Jr., of the firm of Hanson, Eittreim Company, is regarded as one of the leading business men and foremost citizens of Ellsworth, where he is now serving his third term as mayor. He is a native of Norway, his birth having occurred on the 4th of March, 1868, and a son of Ole O. and Martha Eittreim. The parents, who were born, reared and married in the Norseland, came to America in 1868, locating in Illinois. Two years later they continued their journey westward to Hamilton county, where the father farmed as a renter until 1876, when he bought one hundred and twenty acres of

land in Lincoln township. He is still actively engaged in the cultivation and improvement of this property, although he has now attained the age of seventy-two years, while the mother is sixty-eight.

Ole O. Eittreim, Jr., was only an infant when he accompanied his parents on their removal to the United States, and a child of two years when they located in Iowa. He was reared at home and at the usual age began his education in the common schools of this county, and completed it in the seminary at Redwing, Minnesota. Upon terminating his student days he engaged in teaching for two seasons and then accepted a clerkship in a general mercantile store at Radcliffe, Iowa. He continued in that employ for ten years, at the expiration of which time he resigned his position and came to Ellsworth. Here he became associated with H. L. Hanson and others in establishing the mercantile business now conducted under the firm name of the Hanson, Eittreim Company. They carry a large and well assorted stock of general merchandise, which they offer at reasonable prices, and are accorded a good patronage. The members of the firm are enterprising and progressive men and in the conduct of their business have adopted a policy which commends them to the confidence of all with whom they have dealings.

In April, 1892, Mr. Eittreim was married to Miss Celia Digerness, a daughter of A. J. and Mary Digerness, natives of Norway, and they have become the parents of three children, Oren, Myrtle and Ernest. The family affiliate with the Norwegian Lutheran church, in the faith of which Mr. and Mrs. Eittreim were reared. In politics he is a republican and is now serving his third term as mayor and he has also been a member of the council. He is highly esteemed in the community, where he has proven faithful to every trust reposed in him either in public or private life, manifesting the same promptness and efficiency in the discharge of his official duties as he exhibits in the direction of his private interests.

JAMES BRICKER TEDROW, M. D.

Dr. James Bricker Tedrow has been engaged in the practice of medicine in Williams for twenty-six years, and has the distinction of ranking first in years of continuous practice among the medical fraternity of Hamilton county. He was born in Somerset county, Pennsylvania, on the 20th of May, 1856, and is a son of Jonas and Catha-

rine (Long) Tedrow. The parents were also natives of the Keystone state, where they passed their entire lives, their deaths occurring at Glade, Somerset county. Ten children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Jonas Tedrow, as follows: Norman, deceased; Louisa, the wife of Franklin Hechler, deceased, of Somerset county, Pennsylvania; Simon and Savilla, also residents of Somerset county; William, on whom had been conferred the degree of Doctor of Divinity, and who held the pastorate of the English Lutheran church at Kalamazoo, Michigan, at the time of his death, which occurred February 10, 1911; James B., the subject of this review; Lizzie, who died at Omaha, Nebraska, February 21, 1908, the deceased wife of Milton Hamilton; Mary, who died at the age of ten years; Charlie, who is residing on the old homestead in Somerset county, Pennsylvania; and Bertha, who died in Omaha, Nebraska, February 21, 1908, the deceased wife of Edward F. Dodder. They were all born and reared in Somerset county, Pennsylvania.

The early years in the life of Dr. Tedrow were passed on the old family farm in Somerset county, and at the usual age he began his education in the common schools. He subsequently entered Mount Union College at Mount Union, Ohio, from which institution he was graduated in 1882. In considering the choice of a life vocation, he decided in favor of the medical profession, and later matriculated in the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, where he pursued his professional studies. On July 1, 1886, he was graduated with the degree of M. D. and in September of that year he came to Williams and established an office, which he has ever since maintained. Dr. Tedrow was given the advantages of a most excellent course, and in addition to his thorough preparation brought to his assistance the inherent ability and personality so essential in this of all professions. As a result he has met with success and has built up a large and lucrative practice, that extends throughout the surrounding country, and to the neighboring towns.

On the 4th of June, 1890, Dr. Tedrow was married to Miss Nettie Dalbey, who was born at Olin, Jones county, this state, on the 5th of March, 1870, and is a daughter of Jasper and Catharine (Klise) Dalbey. The parents were both natives of Ohio, the father having been born at Athens, Athens county, on April 29, 1832, and the mother in Richland county, on September 28, 1843. They were among the early settlers of Jones county, where the father was successfully identified with both agricultural and business interests, becoming one of the foremost citizens of that vicinity. He has long been living re-

tired and now spends his summers in Iowa and his winters at Jennings, Louisiana. The mother, however, is deceased, having passed away in Kansas, January 13, 1895. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Dalbey numbered five: Alice, who was born on August 5, 1862, the wife of Dr. F. W. Port, of Olin, Iowa; Carrie, whose birth occurred on the 19th of March, 1864, the deceased wife of Luther C. Brock, of Alden, Iowa; Mrs. Tedrow; Lucien, whose natal day was July 31, 1871, a resident of Jennings, Louisiana; and Laura May, who was born on May 5, 1873, and died at the age of three months. They were all born in Iowa and reared at Olin. Dr. and Mrs. Tedrow have one son, Claire DeWitt, who was born at Williams, December 10, 1891. He was graduated from the high school with the class of 1908 and spent the following year in the Cedar Rapids Business College, and is now a student of Iowa College at Grinnell.

Fraternally Dr. Tedrow is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, belonging to the lodge at Alden, and he also belongs to the Mystic Workers and Williams Camp, No. 1844, M. W. A. He maintains relations with his fellow practitioners through the medium of his membership in the Hamilton County and Iowa State Medical Societies and the American Medical Association. He gives his political support to the republican party, and has served with efficiency both as city clerk and county coroner, during the period of his residence in Williams. In matters of citizenship he is public-spirited and enterprising and takes an active interest in every movement that will forward the intellectual, moral or social welfare of the community.

J. W. LEE.

Jesse W. Lee was born in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, July 16, 1868. He was the eldest son of F. Q. and Alice E. Lee, and he was five years of age when his father and mother settled in Webster City. He received his education in the public schools of Webster City and graduated from the high school in 1886. He then entered the Graphic office with his father and for six years performed the duties of compositor, job printer, business manager and assistant editor on the Graphic. In 1893, he commenced the study of law in the office of A. N. Boeye. Later he formed a partnership with H. G. Culp and the firm of Culp & Lee conducted an extensive real-estate and loan business until 1896 when

H. G. Culp died. Mr. Lee was admitted to practice law by the supreme court of Iowa in 1896 and except during a year when he was in partnership with Rube McFerren, has conducted his business alone.

J. W. Lee enlisted as a private in Company C, Sixth Regiment Iowa National Guard, in 1888. He was advanced in rank to corporal, then second lieutenant, then first lieutenant and in 1895 was commissioned captain of his company. On May 25, 1898, he was mustered into the service of the United States as Captain of Company C, Fifty-second Regiment of Iowa Infantry Volunteers and served in this capacity through the Spanish-American war. On the reorganization of the National Guard after the close of the Spanish war, he was again elected captain of Company C, Fifty-sixth Regiment, and in June, 1899, was promoted major. He retired from military service in 1904, after serving sixteen years.

On November 19, 1890, Mr. Lee was married to Hattie E. Howell, daughter of William and Elizabeth (Eyer) Howell and on August 16, 1892, was born to them a daughter, Grace, their only child. Mr. and Mrs. Lee reside at 934 Boone street, Webster City, Iowa.

FLAVIUS QUINCY LEE.

Flavius Quincy Lee was born in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, in 1845. He was a son of Daniel and Mariah (Ruley) Lee. He spent his boyhood days on his father's farm. His education was received at the public schools of Tuscarawas county, supplemented by a course at an academy. When a young man, he taught school for a while, then studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1869. In 1866 he was married to Alice E. Hughes, the daughter of Elza and Mary Hughes of Tuscarawas county, and to Quincy and Alice Lee were born seven children, Jesse W., Ira Arthur, Albert Enos, John Quincy, Nora, Laura and Daniel.

F. Q. Lee moved to Iowa in 1872. He first settled in Clarion, Wright county, when he commenced the practice of law, but in 1873, moved to Webster City and formed a partnership with Judge N. B. Hyatt. The firm of Hyatt & Lee dissolved in 1876,

after which he was associated in business with George Patton, later with James A. Snodgrass and later still with J. M. Blake. In 1882 he purchased the Webster City Advertiser and edited the paper for about eighteen months, when he sold it to George W. Shaeffer. In 1886 he bought the Webster City Graphic of Captain George W. Bell and abandoned his law practice and gave his entire time to editorial work in which he took keen delight. While editing the Graphic, he wrote a history of Hamilton county, which was published in serial form in his paper. In 1890, his health began to fail and in 1892 he sold the Graphic and a year later moved to Hammond, Louisiana, in hope of regaining his health. While living there he founded the Hammond Graphic, which he conducted until the time of his death. He died in April, 1894, at the age of forty-nine years. At the time of his death, J. D. Hunter in the Webster City Freeman, paid him the following tribute:

"Brother F. Q. Lee has gone the way of all the earth. He was a man of generous impulses and sincere convictions. He worked when other men, with such bodily afflictions, would have quit in despair. He loved contention for the truth's sake as he measured it, and never skulked when duty called. The Freeman had many a bout with him on political questions; always found him able, argumentative and sincere, manly, outspoken and courteous. He was zealous in enhancing the interests of his town and the promotion of the public weal. He wanted to do right in all things, and his daily work and conversation was that of a good man. To those who are left to mourn the death of husband and father, his memory will be a perpetual benediction, and in their hour of affliction and sorrow they will have the deep sympathy of the entire community in which he lived so long, and in which every man was a brother and friend. 'Good friend, kind heart, hail and farewell.' "

JOHN FREDERICK BERNARD SVENSON.

John F. B. Svenson, a photographer of recognized ability in Webster City, has since August, 1904, conducted a studio at No. 802 Des Moines street. His birth occurred in Holstein, Germany, on the 17th of June, 1874, his parents being John Peter and Chris-

tine (Berlin) Svenson. He was educated in the schools of the fatherland and there studied photography for four years. In 1903, when a young man of twenty-nine years, he emigrated to the United States, remaining for seven months in New York, where he was connected with Professor Smith in the West Hoboken Art Company. Subsequently he came to Webster City, Iowa, and in August, 1904, here embarked in business as a photographer, remaining a representative of that art to the present time. His brother was for a short period associated with him. He gained a thorough knowledge of photography in his native land and enjoys an enviable reputation as a painstaking artist, who carefully studies his subject so that pose and expression may be natural.

In 1909, while on a trip to Europe, Mr. Svenson was united in marriage to Miss Martha Sarcy, a daughter of Leon Sarcy, of Paris, France. Mr. Svenson has become widely known by reason of his artistic ability and both he and his wife are welcomed in social circles as people of worth and culture.

JOHN E. QUACKENBUSH.

John E. Quackenbush, who is well and prominently known as a contractor and engineer of Webster City, has devoted practically his entire life to the profession of civil and mechanical engineering. His birth occurred in Schuylerville, Saratoga county, New York, on the 16th of December, 1850, his parents being James C. and Mary J. (Shaw) Quackenbush. The father, a farmer by occupation, removed with his family to Butler county, Iowa, in 1856, and in 1870 came to Hamilton county, here spending the remainder of his life. The mother of our subject also died in this county, passing away at the age of seventy-four years.

John E. Quackenbush obtained his education in the schools of Butler and Hamilton counties and when still but a boy began assisting his father in the work of the home farm. He also commenced the study of engineering in the field and when a youth of sixteen entered the service of the firm of Ainsworth, Bradley & Brown, the chief engineers for the Dubuque & Sioux City Railroad, now part of the Illinois Central Railroad. In 1866-67 he was a member of the surveying crew which ran the survey through Hamilton county in the inter-



JOHN E. QUACKENBUSH

ests of the Dubuque & Sioux City Railroad, which was built in 1869. Mr. Quackenbush has always been actively at work and practically his entire life has been devoted to civil and mechanical engineering. He has been engaged principally in the building of bridges, and his services have been in demand not only throughout Hamilton county and the state of Iowa but also in Nebraska, North and South Dakota and Minnesota. In addition to the construction of highway and railroad bridges he has also erected many structures throughout the same territory. He served as county surveyor and engineer of Hamilton county for about six years and has long enjoyed an enviable reputation as a prominent and able representative of his profession. He is a director of the Webster City Savings Bank and likewise owns considerable farm land.

On the 14th of June, 1879, Mr. Quackenbush was united in marriage to Miss Sarah A. Boak, her parents being Wesley and Samantha Boak of Hamilton county, Iowa, formerly of Tennessee. Wesley Boak passed away in 1900 but his widow still resides in Webster City. Our subject and his wife have one daughter, Lorene Madeline, who is the wife of Dr. F. F. Hall and resides in Webster City. Mr. and Mrs. Quackenbush live in a beautiful home at No. 1600 Willson avenue.

The former is a worthy exemplar of the Masonic fraternity, being a member of Acacia Lodge, No. 176, F. & A. M.; Hope Chapter, No. 88, R. A. M.; Triune Commandery, No. 41, K. T.; and Sharon Chapter, No. 148, O. E. S. High and manly principles have characterized his entire life, winning for him a creditable position in the regard of his fellowmen. Without special advantages at the outset of his career, he has gained an enviable position in his chosen field of endeavor and is, moreover, recognized as a valued resident of Webster City.

ANDREW J. BARR.

Andrew J. Barr, a retired agriculturist residing in Webster City, has lived within the borders of Hamilton county for the past forty-five years and was long identified with its farming interests. His birth occurred in Logan county, Illinois, on the 15th of September, 1833, his parents being Thomas and Elsie (Watt) Barr. The maternal grandfather of our subject was a Methodist min-

ister. Thomas Barr, the father of Andrew J. Barr, followed farming in Illinois throughout his active business career.

Such education as Andrew J. Barr received in his youthful years was acquired during a few short periods at school and through his own efforts while working on his father's farm. In later years, however, he continually augmented his knowledge through reading, experience and observation. He worked on his father's farm until twenty years of age, when he was married and started out as an agriculturist on his own account in Illinois. In 1856, with his wife and two children, he drove from Logan county, that state, to Minnesota, the trip consuming twenty-one days. He lived there for fourteen years, engaged in general agricultural pursuits. On February 18, 1863, he enlisted for service in the Union army as a member of Company C, Sixth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, remaining with that command until the close of the war. He was assigned to many duties of trust, traveling between the regiment in the field and northern points, and was engaged at various times to assist in the exchange of prisoners between Camp Douglas and Richmond, Virginia. After the cessation of hostilities between the north and south he returned to Minnesota, where his wife had continued the operation of their farm, keeping the land productive during his absence and ably caring for the crops. Minnesota was at that time infested with marauding bands of Indians, many of whom frequently visited Mrs. Barr while her husband was at the front with the boys in blue. Nevertheless she bravely continued her work and cared for her children, and not only attended to the cultivation and harvesting of crops but cared for the stock and drove to town by ox team whenever her business required. On disposing of his Minnesota property Mr. Barr came to Hamilton county, Iowa, and purchased a farm in Freedom township, in the cultivation of which he was actively engaged until 1887. In that year he bought property and took up his abode in Webster City, continuing to supervise the operation of his farm, however, until a few years ago. He is now living retired, enjoying the fruits of his former toil in well earned ease.

Mr. Barr married Miss Catherine Elizabeth Hoffman, her parents being John and Catherine D. (Maricle) Hoffman, of Mechanicsburg, Ohio, the former a cooper by trade. They were born, reared and married in Maryland and later removed to Virginia, their daughter Catherine being born in Frederick

county, that state, in 1835. In the early '50s John Hoffman liberated his slaves and removed to Ohio, where he spent the remainder of his life. Mr. and Mrs. Barr became the parents of six children and they now have seventeen grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. Elsie C., who was born in 1854, gave her hand in marriage to Horace Robinson and resides in Story county, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Robinson have seven children and four grandchildren, as follows: Nellie, who is married and has two children; Benjamin, who is married and has one child; Maude; James; Blanche; Hallis, who is married and has one child; and Eva. John T. Barr, whose birth occurred in Illinois in 1856, married Miss Ann Beightol and resides near Homer, Hamilton county, Iowa. He now has four children and one grandchild: Grace, who is married and has one child; Earl; Elsie; and Gay. Martha gave her hand in marriage to William Meeks and lives six miles east of Webster City. Mr. and Mrs. Meeks have four children and two grandchildren, namely: Grace, who is married and has one child; Merl; Ethel, who is the mother of one son; and Florence. William Marion, who wedded Martha De France, is a hotel proprietor of Brunswick, Nebraska. He has two children and two grandchildren: Ettie; and May, who is the mother of two daughters. Lafayette Barr passed away when but five years of age. Angie Barr died when seventeen months old. Andrew J. Barr and his wife were married when still very young—at the ages of twenty and eighteen years respectively. Their married life has been an ideal and happy one, their mutual love and confidence increasing as the years have gone by. During the early days of struggle and hardship they never lost faith in each other nor in God, and their earnest labors have been blest and rewarded, not only in worldly goods, but also in a large and happy family of children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. They reside at No. 929 Bank street in Webster City.

Since 1850, or for the past sixty-two years, Mr. Barr has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. From 1862 until 1892 he was actively identified with the Sunday school as superintendent and general worker. He belongs to Winfield Scott Post, No. 66, G. A. R., and served as its chaplain from 1901 until 1911. The Barr family came originally from the north of Ireland, and Mr. Barr numbers among his valued possessions a bible, printed in 1698, which was brought from that country by one of his ancestors. Andrew J. Barr had the distinction of being the oldest

representative of his family at a reunion held in the fall of 1911 at Waynesville, DeWitt county, Illinois, where more than five hundred of the name gathered together. He has now passed the seventy-ninth milestone on life's journey and his career has ever been such that he can look back over the past without regret and forward to the future without fear.

EDWARD ACKLEY.

One of the most successful general farmers and stock-raisers in Hamilton county is Edward Ackley, who brings to the cultivation of the soil a personal experience in practical methods of agriculture, which has enabled him to develop from a tract of raw prairie land a fertile and productive farm. His land comprises one hundred and sixty acres and is situated on section 10, Liberty township. Mr. Ackley has his property in excellent condition. He was born in Fulton county, Ohio, on May 17, 1854, and is a son of Calvin and Gertrude (Walker) Ackley, the former a native of New York, born May 1, 1815, and the latter of New Jersey. Calvin Ackley went to Fulton county, Ohio, from his native state and was numbered among the pioneers in that section. He cultivated the soil and was successful in agricultural pursuits until his death on February 1, 1906. His wife passed away in Ohio when our subject was four years of age. To their union five children were born: Leman, who resides in Hastings, Nebraska; Dr. Winfield, a practicing physician of Juniata, Nebraska; Mrs. Ella Acker, of Fayette, Ohio; Edward, the subject of this sketch; and Mrs. Josephine Snow, also a resident of Fayette. All the children born to Mr. and Mrs. Ackley were reared and educated in Ohio.

Edward Ackley attended the public schools of his native state and aided his father in the work of the farm from his early boyhood. In this way he obtained a personal experience in the details of agriculture which has been a valuable asset to him in his mature career. He grew to manhood in Fulton county and at the age of twenty-eight moved to Iowa, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of raw prairie land in Hamilton county. It was entirely unimproved and Mr. Ackley broke the soil and fenced it into fields. He has pursued a steady policy

of gradual expansion and as the years have passed his harvests have grown more abundant. He quickly realized the advantage of a grove and has a large section of his property planted in trees, while his stock-raising interests form an important part of his activities. He has erected his home upon his farm and it is one of the most attractive and comfortable residences in Liberty township, equipped with all the comforts and conveniences of a modern dwelling.

Mr. Ackley was married on October 11, 1882, to Miss Anna Baker, a native of Decatur county, Iowa, where her birth occurred on the 7th of March, 1857. Her parents were Richard T. and Sarah J. (Hankins) Baker, the former a native of Seneca county, Ohio, born on the 14th of November, 1827, and the latter of Indiana. Mrs. Ackley's mother was born on October 7, 1830, and died in Hamilton county on the 22d of August, 1903. Her father was a soldier in the Union army during the Civil war, enlisting in Company A, First Iowa Cavalry. His regiment marched five thousand miles during its term of service and was never in a defeat. Richard T. Baker died immediately after the battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas, on August 29, 1863. He and his wife had four children: Ferridoon, whose birth occurred on the 26th of May, 1855, and who is now residing at Pomona, California; Anna, the wife of our subject; Mrs. Lucretia Hankins, born March 26, 1859, who is now residing near Hay Springs, Nebraska; and Ruth, whose birth occurred on July 14, 1861, and who died on July 6, 1876. All the children of Mr. and Mrs. Baker were born in Decatur county, Iowa, in which section the family was prominent for many years. Daniel Hankins, the grandfather of Mrs. Ackley, was among the earliest settlers in that section, making his home there while the Mormons were still at Garden Grove. The wife of our subject was educated in the district schools of her native section and attended later the Garden Grove Academy for four years. She remained with her parents until her marriage. To Mr. and Mrs. Ackley have been born eight children: Lucretia J., who resides in Boise, Idaho; Mrs. Nellie D. Beam, of Miles City, Montana; Ella B., twin to Nellie, who is residing in Tilford, South Dakota; Florence Violet, who is teaching in the district schools of Hamilton county; Paul L., who is pursuing his studies in Ellsworth College; Ferridoon; Lillian; and Sybil. The younger children of Mr. and Mrs. Ackley

are still at school and in their leisure hours they assist their parents in the work of the farm.

Mr. Ackley is a republican in his political beliefs and for twelve years has done able and effective service as a member of the school board. He has kept abreast of the steady advancement which agriculture has made along systematic and scientific lines. He has added personal experience to his knowledge and his industry and intelligence have been rewarded by a beautiful tract of land, every acre of which is cultivated to its highest point of productiveness.

WILLIAM B. KEARNS.

William B. Kearns, a wholesale and retail dealer in cigars at No. 707 Des Moines avenue in Webster City, has been engaged in business at his present location for the past twelve years. His birth occurred in Vinton, Iowa, in 1869, his parents being John V. and Mary J. (Dostile) Kearns. It was in 1855 that the father accompanied his parents on their removal to Benton county, this state. At the time of the Civil war he enlisted for service in the Thirteenth United States Infantry and lost his arm at the battle of Vicksburg. In 1871 he came to Hamilton county and embarked in the grocery business at Webster City, having here successfully conducted an establishment of that character to the present time or for more than four decades. He has served as county recorder for twelve years and is well known as a representative and esteemed citizen.

William B. Kearns obtained his education in the schools of Webster City and when seventeen years of age began clerking in a dry-goods store. He worked in a clerical capacity in various other establishments until 1892 and then embarked in the cigar business on his own account in the Willson House. In 1900 he opened a store at No. 707 Des Moines avenue, where he has remained continuously since, carrying on a general jobbing business and enjoying an extensive patronage as a wholesale and retail dealer in cigars. He also takes an active interest in baseball, being owner of the team and park in Webster City as well as manager of the team.

In 1893 Mr. Kearns was united in marriage to Miss Anna Stafford, her father being C. W. Stafford, a carpenter and contractor of Fort Dodge, Iowa. Our subject and his wife have one daughter, Arline, who was born in 1898. The family residence is at No. 907 First street in Webster City.

Fraternally Mr. Kearns is identified with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, being a member of Lodge No. 302, of which he is a past exalted ruler. He was the representative to the grand lodge at Salt Lake City and Atlantic City. The local organization of the Modern Woodmen of America also numbers him among its valued members. He has spent practically his entire life in Webster City and enjoys an enviable reputation as one of its alert, enterprising and progressive business men, while in social circles his pleasing personality has made him popular.

CHARLES W. BLACK.

Charles W. Black who is now a member of the dry-goods firm of Shipley & Black and whose influence has been a progressive factor in its success, was born in Bloomfield, Davis county, Iowa, on November 15, 1879. His parents are Joseph R. and Isabel (Harris) Black, who came from Cambridge, Ohio, to Iowa about 1846 or 1848. His father is a representative and progressive agriculturist in Davis county where he is still living with his wife.

Charles W. Black was educated in the public schools of his native section, spending some time in the Cedar Rapids high school. During the last four years of his student life he was employed as clerk in the Fair dry-goods store at Cedar Rapids and thus early became acquainted with the details of the operation of a modern and progressive mercantile enterprise. He supplemented his high school education by a course at the Southern Iowa Normal School at Bloomfield, from which institution he was graduated in 1902. His active career began in his native city as stenographer, typewriter and bookkeeper for T. P. Bence, a leading attorney at law in Bloomfield. Here Mr. Black spent six months before he took a position as clerk for Hill & Company, dry-goods merchants of the same city. He retained his connection with this firm for three years and gained valuable personal experience in commercial values and in the buying and

selling of goods. In 1905 he went to Centerville, Iowa, and entered the employ of Strickler Brothers who operated a large dry-goods store in that city. Mr. Black was given charge of the dress goods and card writing departments and by his intelligent activity made his branch of the enterprise successful and flourishing. He remained in Centerville until March, 1909, in which year he established his residence in Webster City. He entered the employ of W. V. Shipley, and his services were so valuable and progressive that in 1911 he was allowed a half interest in the business and the firm became known as Shipley & Black, under which title it has been operating since that time. Much of its success is due to the policy of modern expansion which is the vital characteristic of Mr. Black's business career. He has brought to the conduct of his dry-goods enterprise a discriminating and alert mind, an unwavering industry and an integrity which never deviates from a narrow path of strict honesty.

On June 6, 1907, Mr. Black was united in marriage in Centerville, Iowa, to Miss Laura Pierson, a daughter of G. H. Pierson, a coal mine owner of that city. Mr. and Mrs. Black reside at 637 Bank street, Webster City, and are well known and popular in social circles. They hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Black seeks no distinction beyond success in a purely business walk of life, preferring to spend his life quietly and honorably in worthy lines of activity. Business men of Webster City respect him for his liberal commercial intelligence and for his upright business morality. His friends find in him a genial and loyal companion. The two phases of his life form true success.

HENRY F. WILLE.

Among the citizens of Williams who have actively and persistently aided in the development of the town by enthusiastically cooperating in every progressive movement and thus assisting in carrying to a successful issue its various public projects, must be mentioned Henry F. Wille, who for seven years has been most efficiently serving the municipality in the capacity of mayor.

Mr. Wille is one of the thrifty, enterprising citizens Germany has furnished Hamilton county, his birth having occurred in Mecklen-



HENRY F. WILLE

burg-Schwerin, June 18, 1835. He is the only surviving member in a family of eight children born of the marriage of Ralph and Hannah (Wulke) Wille, who passed their entire lives in the fatherland.

The first nineteen years in the life of Henry F. Wille were passed in the land of his birth, where he received a common-school education. Together with a sister he emigrated to the United States in 1854, landing in New York City. From there he went to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and thence to Galena, Illinois, where he resided for two years and during that period he made the acquaintance of General U. S. Grant. He subsequently returned to Wisconsin, where he was employed until October 13, 1861, when he enlisted as a private in Company I, Sixteenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry and went to the front in defense of the Union. On the 1st of January, 1864, he re-enlisted, remaining in the service until honorably discharged July 29, 1865. His first battle was Shiloh, where Captain Saxe, of Company A, Sixteenth Wisconsin regiment, General Prentiss' division, was the first man killed. Mr. Wille was under Grant's command until after the fall of Vicksburg, when his regiment was attached to Sherman's army. After his discharge, he returned to Grant county, Wisconsin, where he resumed his agricultural pursuits until the spring of 1870, when he came to Iowa and has ever since been a resident of Hamilton county. Soon after coming here he acquired a farm in the vicinity of Williams, which he successfully cultivated until 1892, when he located in the town. He still retained his farm, however, until about two years ago.

In Grant county, Wisconsin, on the 7th of September, 1867, Mr. Wille was united in marriage to Miss Hannah M. Cullen, who was born in Pennsylvania, October 25, 1843, and died in Williams on the 14th of August, 1897. She was one of three children born to Joseph and Hannah Cullen, natives of Ireland, who emigrated to America in early life and passed their last days in Wisconsin. The other two children of Mr. and Mrs. Cullen, Anna, now Mrs. Heil, and George, are still living and make their home in Cuba City, Wisconsin. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Wille numbered six children, all of whom, with the exception of the two eldest, were born in Hamilton county. In order of birth they are as follows: Joseph H., who was born in Grant county, Wisconsin, June 4, 1868, and is now a resident of Williams; Hannah R., who was born in Grant county, December 13, 1869, and is the wife of Charles Scott, of Kankakee, Illinois; Charles F., who was born January 7, 1872, and died on the 9th of February, 1904; George F., who was born on the 10th of September, 1874, and

is now a resident of Algona, Iowa; Paul R., who was born July 5, 1877, and lives in Buckeye, Iowa; and David W., who was born April 8, 1882, and died on the 31st of January, 1907.

Mr. Wille was reared in the Lutheran faith, but as there is no church of that denomination in Williams he affiliates with the Presbyterians. He maintains relations with his old comrades through the medium of his connection with Fairchild Post, No. 431, G. A. R., of Williams, and he is a member of Lodge No. 458, I. O. O. F. In his political allegiance Mr. Wille is a stanch republican. He is public-spirited and possesses a full appreciation of the duties as well as the privileges of citizenship and therefore takes an active and helpful interest in all political affairs. He has held the various township offices and is now serving his seventh year as mayor of Williams, the length of his term being substantial evidence of his efficiency. He is a well informed man, of broad, general knowledge with progressive, yet practical ideas, lenient in his judgment and kindly in his criticism. He has been successful in his business undertakings and has an attractive, comfortable residence in Williams and a competence that is more than sufficient for his needs. Needless to say Mr. Wille is very popular personally as he is a man whom it is a delight to meet and a privilege to know; his radiant, wholesome personality, unfailing optimism and faith in his fellowmen enabling him to win and retain the confidence and esteem of those with whom he comes in contact.

BENJAMIN McCOY.

Benjamin McCoy, who is now living retired at No. 1029 First street in Webster City, was for a number of years actively and successfully identified with agricultural pursuits in Hamilton county, operating a farm in Fremont township. His birth occurred in Pendleton county, Virginia, on the 14th of March, 1834, his parents being Henry and Mary Ann (Botkin) McCoy. The father, a farmer of Virginia, passed away in the fall of 1862. The mother lived to attain the advanced age of ninety-two years.

Benjamin McCoy obtained his education in a log schoolhouse in Virginia. In 1857, when a young man of twenty-three years, he removed to Lewis county, West Virginia, residing there at the time of the outbreak of the Civil war. He was thus in the midst of the exciting and confusing scenes attending the begin-

ning of the strife, when every man took his stand in support of either the Union or the Confederacy and many families were divided. After carefully considering the principles involved Mr. McCoy decided to remain with the Union and in June, 1861, enlisted in the Third West Virginia Volunteer Infantry. His two brothers joined the Confederate army. One was captured three days after his enlistment and died in a Federal prison. The other fought for the south throughout the entire period of hostilities. At the end of nine months' service Benjamin McCoy was discharged on account of disability and returned home. He was constantly harassed by the skirmishing rebels as well as by the guerrillas who infested that section and on several occasions barely escaped with his life, for his sympathy with the Union cause was well known to these bands and aroused their bitter enmity. When, only by exercising the utmost caution, he had thwarted several of their plans to shoot him, he deemed discretion the better part of valor and concluded to leave that part of the country, removing to Lexington, Illinois, with his family March 1, 1865. There he followed farming until 1893 and in that year came to Hamilton county, Iowa, purchasing a farm in Fremont township which he operated successfully until a few years ago. Putting aside the active work of the fields, he took up his abode in Webster City, where he has since lived in honorable retirement.

Mr. McCoy has been married twice. In 1854 he wedded Miss Cynthia Malcolm of Virginia, who died the following year. In 1856 he married Miss Emily Wilson, her father being James Wilson of Ohio, who is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. McCoy have seven children, as follows: Rosina, who was born in 1862 and who is the wife of Robert Spielman, of Webster City; William S., born in 1864, who resides at Pleasanton, Kansas; Ida, who is the widow of S. H. Spielman and makes her home in Webster City; John W., an agriculturist of Cass township, Hamilton county; Eva, who is the wife of Alfred H. Harmon and lives in Lexington, Illinois; Mary, who is the wife of William S. Stelling, of Des Moines, Iowa; and Benjamin F., Jr., a farmer living in Fremont township, Hamilton county.

Politically Mr. McCoy is a stanch republican. During most of the period of his residence in Lexington, Illinois, he served as a school director and for nine years acted as school treasurer. He also held the office of constable for four years and that of

deputy sheriff for several years. He belongs to Winfield Scott Post, No. 66, G. A. R., of Webster City, and is at present chaplain of the post, while during the year 1911 he served as adjutant. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the United Brethren church. He has now passed the seventy-eighth milestone on this earthly pilgrimage and can look back upon a useful, active and honorable life.

FREDERICK BAUER.

Frederick Bauer, a well known and highly respected resident of Webster City, has here lived retired since 1910. He was successfully engaged in the shoe business at Eagle Grove for twenty-nine years and prior to his connection with commercial interests devoted his attention to general agricultural pursuits, still owning about two hundred and forty acres of land on section 21, Independence township, Hamilton county. He is the oldest surviving original owner of land in that township. His birth occurred in Wurtemberg, Germany, in July, 1840, his parents being Carl and Christina (Byer) Bauer. The father emigrated to the United States in 1852, settling in Sauk county, Wisconsin, where he followed farming throughout the remainder of his life. The demise of his wife had occurred in 1848.

Frederick Bauer received only a limited education in his youthful years, attending the country schools in Sauk county, Wisconsin. Reading, experience and observation, however, have constantly augmented his knowledge and broadened his mind. He followed farming in Sauk county until the outbreak of the Civil war and on the 3d of September, 1861, enlisted in the Eleventh Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry at Portage city. In the following November he was mustered into the service at Madison, Wisconsin, under Captain Alexander Chrystie and Colonel Charles L. Harris. On the 19th of November, 1861, the troops left the state of Wisconsin for St. Louis, arriving there two days later. They were then sent to Sulphur Springs, Missouri, twenty-three miles below St. Louis, where they remained during the winter or until March 12, 1862, when they moved to Pilot Knob, Missouri, and were assigned to the Army of the Frontier. With his regiment Mr. Bauer participated in the fol-

lowing engagements: Bayou Cache, Arkansas, July 6, 1862; Port Gibson, Mississippi, May 1, 1863; Champion Hill, Mississippi, May 16, 1863; Black River Bridge, Mississippi, May 17, 1863; and the siege of Vicksburg, Mississippi, beginning May 18, 1863. Mr. Bauer was wounded on the 22d of May, 1863, during the siege of Vicksburg; losing the thumb on his left hand. After three weeks spent in the Jefferson Hospital of Memphis, Tennessee, and the Harvey Hospital at Madison, Wisconsin, he was detailed as recruiting officer for his regiment at Madison, Wisconsin, serving as such until honorably discharged in November, 1864, when his term of enlistment expired.

After the cessation of hostilities between the north and the south Mr. Bauer returned to his home in Sauk county, Wisconsin, and in 1866 came to Iowa, settling in Independence township, Hamilton county. Here he purchased a tract of two hundred and forty acres of land on section 21, all of which he still owns with the exception of about four acres used by the railroad. When this property first came into his possession it was raw prairie, but as time passed he brought it under a high state of cultivation, erected fences and buildings and in fact made all of the improvements found on a model farm. He resided thereon until the fall of 1880, when he suffered the loss of four children by diphtheria, all dying within ten days. This great bereavement caused him to rent his farm, and with his wife and remaining child he returned to Wisconsin on a visit. In 1881 he came to Webster City, Iowa, but after a few months took up his abode in Eagle Grove, this state, where he was successfully engaged in the shoe business for twenty-nine years. In 1910 he returned to Webster City and has here lived in honorable retirement for the past two years, his home being at No. 925 Division street.

On the 3d of July, 1865, at Merrimack, Wisconsin, Mr. Bauer was united in marriage to Miss Katherine Schweppe, her parents being Herman and Mary (Sturke) Schweppe, the former a farmer of Dane county, Wisconsin. Mrs. Katherine Bauer was born on the 1st of April, 1846. By her marriage she became the mother of five children, as follows: Minnie Mary, whose birth occurred on the 17th of July, 1866, and who passed away on the 10th of August, 1880; Herman Carl, born April 21, 1868, who is engaged in the lumber business at Larchwood, Iowa, and who wedded Miss Kate Meier, by whom he has a son and daughter;

Frederick John, whose natal day was April 25, 1870, and who died on the 17th of August, 1880; Katie E., born September 5, 1872, who passed away August 15, 1880; Albert, who was born January 30, 1879, and died August 20, 1880. As above stated, four of these children died of diphtheria within ten days.

Mr. Bauer still maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades through his membership in Winfield Scott Post, No. 66, G. A. R. He is also identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, belonging to Golden Link Lodge, No. 68, at Eagle Grove. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Congregational church. His life has been a busy and useful one, and his well spent years have brought him the success which he now enjoys and have gained him the respect and confidence which are so uniformly extended to him.

ALBERT SOWERS.

Albert Sowers is one of the active, enterprising and successful farmers of Ellsworth township and by his able cultivation of his farm of eighty acres on section 34 has placed himself in the front ranks of progressive agriculturists. He was born in Ellsworth township, March 28, 1865, a son of Lindsey and Rebecca E. (Ward) Sowers, who were among the early settlers in Hamilton county and among the most enterprising and public-spirited of its citizens. The father was born in Fountain county, Indiana, December 25, 1833, and settled in Ellsworth township upon a farm in the fall of 1856. Upon this property he carried on general farming until his death, which occurred March 4, 1911. The mother of our subject was born in Crawford county, Ohio, December 12, 1839, and came to Ellsworth township before her marriage. Here her death occurred February 12, 1898. In their family were eight children: Laura, who was born June 4, 1863, and who died March 26, 1865; Albert, of this review; Henry, who was born October 21, 1866, and who died May 26, 1867; Pearley, whose birth occurred May 18, 1868; Mrs. Mary Hughes, who was born February 7, 1871; Guy, a farmer of Ellsworth township; Pliny, born January 29, 1876; and Charles, born May 16, 1878. All of these children were born and reared in Ellsworth township and are still residing there.

Albert Sowers attended the public schools of Ellsworth township and from an early date has been identified with general farming in this section. He owns eighty acres of excellent land and has pursued a constant policy of improvement and development, erecting the necessary buildings and planting in the most suitable grains, being now the proprietor of an excellent modern farm.

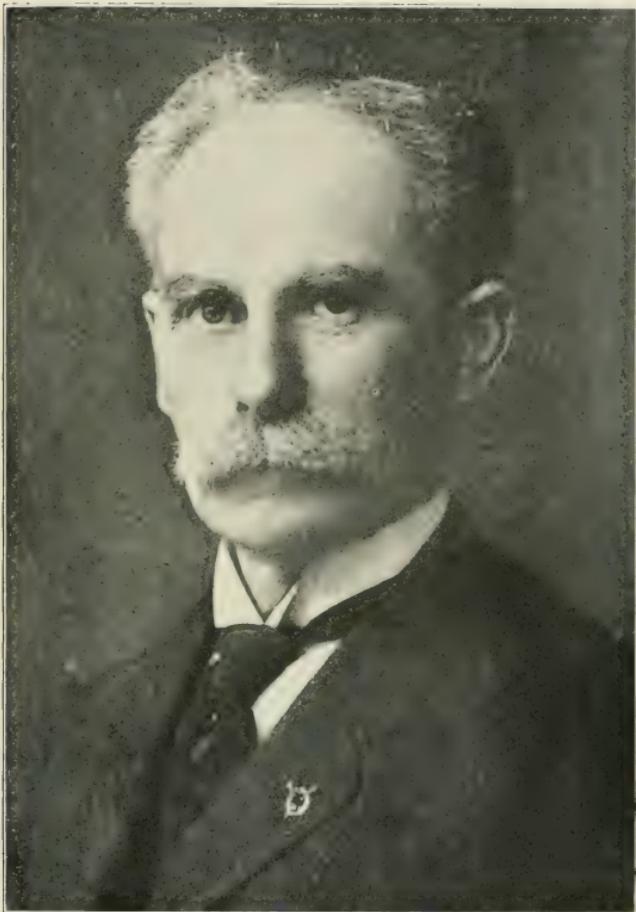
On March 20, 1888, Mr. Sowers was united in marriage to Miss Maria E. Scott, who was born in Chickasaw county, Iowa, March 30, 1866, and who taught school prior to her marriage. Her father, John Scott, was born in Ohio, January 13, 1813, and died in Wright county, Iowa, July 27, 1887. He was twice married. By his first union he had four children: Boone, who was born May 21, 1842, and who is residing at Scranton, Iowa; Mrs. Margaret Norris, born in Altaloma, Texas, February 14, 1844; Mrs. Phoebe Murray, who was born November 15, 1846, and who lives in Oklahoma; and La Vega, who was born November 21, 1848, and who is residing in Taylor, North Dakota. John Scott's second marriage was with Sarah A. Johnson, who was born in Virginia, October 26, 1833, and who is now residing in Rutland, Iowa. To this union eight children were born: Jacob, whose birth occurred April 26, 1853; Mrs. Susan Styles, who was born May 6, 1865, and who is residing in Waterloo, Nebraska; Mrs. Hannah Stewart, who was born April 6, 1857, and who lives in Luverne, Iowa; Mrs. Mary Upton, of Yoder, Colorado, who was born March 28, 1859, and who taught school in Hamilton county for a number of years; Mrs. Martha Lawler, who was born April 20, 1862, and who died at Eagle Grove, Wright county, January 11, 1901; Mrs. Sowers, of this review; Martin, who was born September 16, 1868, and who resides in Leeds, South Dakota; and William, who was born March 16, 1873, and who lives at Maple Hill. Mr. and Mrs. Sowers became the parents of eight children: Alma, who was born March 9, 1889, and who died March 22, 1893; Ralph, born March 8, 1891, and who died March 24th of the same year; Alvin J., born July 12, 1893; Grace E., born August 29, 1894; Florence E., born August 1, 1896; Earl Lindsey, born December 1, 1898; Albert Wilber, born August 17, 1900; and Clarence P., born October 4, 1906. All of these children were natives of Ellsworth township and those surviving are attending the district schools.

Albert Sowers gives his allegiance to the democratic party and is serving as school director in his district. However, he has devoted practically all his time since the beginning of his active career to farming and by upright methods and honorable standards has gained that prosperity which results from earnest and well directed effort, being accounted one of the leading agriculturists of his native section.

FRANK E. BROWN.

The successive steps in the business career of Frank E. Brown are easily discernible and have brought him to a prominent position in commercial circles. His present enterprise is one that contributes to general business activity and prosperity as well as to his individual success. He is now president and was the organizer of the Brown Spring Ice Skate Company, which was organized in 1896. New York claims him as one of her native sons, his birth having occurred in Elmira in 1846. His father, Isaac M. Brown, was an inventor as well as a pictorial painter of note. The later years of his life were spent in Canada where he died in 1886. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Emily Alice Gardner, survived him for almost two decades, passing away in 1905.

Frank E. Brown was educated in the common schools of Elmira and at the age of fourteen years began learning the carriage builders' trade in that city. He was about eighteen years of age when in 1865 he offered his services to the country in defense of the Union cause, enlisting in the One Hundred and Ninety-fourth New York Volunteers, with which he served until the end of the war. He then came to Iowa and spent two years in Cedar Rapids and in Springville, Iowa. He afterward worked in various capacities in the state until 1870, when he took up his abode in Webster City and opened a carriage and blacksmith shop. His business was extended in its scope to include the manufacture of speed carts and this business he carried on until 1889, when he sold a two-thirds interest in his speed cart business. He then went to Des Moines, to which city the enterprise was removed, being there conducted under the name of the Brown Carriage Company. About 1891 he disposed of his remaining third interest and went to Anamosa, Iowa, where with his son, William E. Brown, he established a drug business under the name of



F. E. BROWN

Brown & Son, the store, however, being known as the "Two Brownies." Operations were there continued for five years, at the end of which time Mr. Brown disposed of the store and came to Webster City. Having patented a spring ice skate, in 1896 he organized the Brown Spring Ice Skate Company and began the manufacture of skates. He has continuously served as president of the company and is now at the head of a large and growing business. The enterprise has been developed along substantial lines and has been a paying one almost from the outset. A number of employees are now engaged in the manufacture of skates and the output is sent over a wide territory.

In 1870, Mr. Brown was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Phillips Toogood, a daughter of Sidney Toogood, who is a farmer of Linn county, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Brown have two sons. William Earl was born February 17, 1873, and wedded Miss Jeannette Fox, of Iowa Falls, Iowa. He is now engaged in the drug business in Webster City and is known as "Buster Brown." Bernice R. Brown is the secretary of the Brown Spring Ice Skate Company. The family residence is at No. 902 First street. Mr. Brown maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades through his membership in Winfield Scott Post, No. 66, G. A. R. He is also a loyal representative of the Elks lodge of Webster City. His life has been one of unfaltering industry and his intelligently directed efforts have brought him to a creditable position in business circles where success crowns his efforts. He is justly accounted one of the substantial citizens here and the sterling traits of character which he has ever displayed have firmly established him in public regard.

FRANK E. WILLSON.

Frank E. Willson, who spent his entire life in Webster City, passing away here on the 29th of March, 1907, was widely recognized as a prominent factor in business circles and acted as general manager of the Crooked Creek Railroad & Coal Company. His birth occurred on the 11th of June, 1859, his parents being Walter C. and Calista (Rickerson) Willson. The father was the founder of Webster City and had extensive business interests here. He was one of the organizers of the Crooked Creek Railroad & Coal Company and erected a number of buildings, including the Willson Hotel, which was rebuilt by him in 1885.

Frank E. Willson was educated in the Webster City public schools and also pursued a commercial course in the Milwaukee Business College. After putting aside his text-books he became an associate of his father and when the latter passed away, in 1900, he assumed full charge of his father's affairs, becoming the general manager of the Crooked Creek Railroad & Coal Company. He possessed excellent business ability and sound judgment, conducting important interests ably and successfully. For two years prior to his demise, however, he was an invalid.

In 1888 Mr. Willson was united in marriage to Miss Minnie Arthur, a daughter of Horace and Mary Arthur, of Webster City. They had one son, Walter C. Willson, whose birth occurred in Webster City, June 29, 1893, and who is now engaged in the news business with Richard Ferrall, under the firm name of Willson & Ferrall, at No. 618 Des Moines avenue.

Frank E. Willson was prominent in the local organization of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, being past exalted ruler of Lodge No. 302. His widow now supervises the affairs of the Willson estate and has proven herself to be a woman of splendid executive ability and keen discernment. She resides in her home at No. 715 First street and has an extensive circle of friends in Webster City.

WILLIAM ANDERSON.

William Anderson, now serving as mayor of Jewell, has long been recognized as one of the leading and influential citizens of the town. He twice represented this county in the state legislature and was a prominent factor in financial circles as president of the State Bank of Jewell, resigning that position on the 1st of January, 1912. His birth occurred near London, Ontario, on the 8th of April, 1852, his parents being Duncan and Catherine (Corsant) Anderson. The paternal grandfather of our subject was born and educated in Glasgow, Scotland, but the maternal grandfather was born in America, Mrs. Anderson's ancestors coming to this country in the Mayflower. Mr. and Mrs. Duncan Anderson had eighteen children, all of whom were born and reared in Ontario.

William Anderson obtained his early education in the public schools of London, Ontario, and at Middlesex Seminary of Komoka, Ontario, being graduated from that institution in 1869. During the following four years he taught school in London, Ontario, and in 1873 crossed the border into the United States, coming direct to Hamilton county, Iowa. Settling in Lyon township, he there worked on a farm during the summer months and in the winter followed the profession of teaching. In 1874 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 26, Lyon township, and has since extended the boundaries of his farm until at the present time it embraces five hundred acres. He devoted his attention to general agricultural pursuits and also taught school until 1883, when he was elected auditor of Hamilton county, being reelected two years later and serving a second term. In 1887 he was elected county superintendent of the Hamilton county schools and, owing to the fact that he was reelected in 1889, served in that capacity until 1892. The following year he assisted in the organization of the State Bank of Jewell and acted as its vice president until 1899, when he was made president of the institution. On the 1st of January, 1912, however, he resigned his position as chief executive officer. From 1896 until 1899 he also served as cashier of the First National Bank of Webster City, ably discharging his duties in this connection and thus promoting the growth and success of the institution. He is a director and treasurer of the Jewell Telephone Company and likewise a director of the Jewell Electric Light Company.

In November, 1875, Mr. Anderson was united in marriage to Miss Morisini F. Everett, of Virginia, by whom he had seven children, four of whom still survive. Cecil, a veterinary surgeon residing at Jewell, married Miss Minnie Sweeney, by whom he has two children. Charles E., also married, is a practicing dentist of Madrid, Iowa. Hattie is a teacher in the high school at Boone, Iowa. Keo A., the mother of one daughter, is the wife of Willard Minert, a grain and coal dealer of Waukon, Iowa. Merle, who was a student in the Chicago Veterinary College at Chicago, Illinois, passed away September 19, 1912.

Politically Mr. Anderson has always been a stanch republican. In 1906 he was elected state representative from Hamilton county and two years later was reelected, having won the enthusiastic approval and renewed support of his constituents. In March, 1912, he was chosen mayor of Jewell for a term of two

years and is therefore the present incumbent in the office, exercising his official prerogatives in support of many measures of reform and improvement. Few men are more prominent or more widely known in the enterprising city of Jewell than Mr. Anderson. He has been an important factor in business circles and his prosperity is well deserved, as in him are embraced the characteristics of an unbending integrity, unabating energy and industry that never flags. Both he and his estimable wife have a host of warm friends throughout the community and justly merit the regard and esteem which is uniformly accorded them.

WILLIAM T. OAKLAND.

Scientific efficiency is the standard of attainment in modern agriculture and William T. Oakland has made it his end and ambition in the cultivation of his excellent farm of two hundred and forty acres in Liberty township. He was born in Illinois, April 14, 1878. His father, Enoch Oakland, is a native of Norway where his birth occurred on the 5th of May, 1849. His first journey to America was made in 1871 and at this time he resided four years in the United States. At the end of that time he returned to Norway and remained in his native country a year and a half. After his second journey to America he located in Illinois, where he followed farming for a short time. In 1892 he came with his family to Hamilton county, Iowa, and with the exception of two years during which he was a resident of Webster City, he has cultivated the soil in Liberty township since that time. He purchased here one hundred and sixty acres and is now numbered among the representative and substantial agriculturists of his section. His wife was in her maidenhood Miss Marie Erickson and she was also born in Norway. Unto their union were born four children, namely: Mrs. Emma Jaycox, of Minneapolis, Minnesota; William T., of this review; Edward, deceased; and Mrs. Ella Neveln, of Storm Lake, Iowa.

William T. Oakland was reared at home and was educated in the district schools of Illinois and Iowa. He came to Hamilton county with his father in 1892 and has followed farming during all of his active life. He is the owner of a tract of two hundred and forty acres in Liberty township which is in excellent

condition as a result of his well directed work. He has made extensive improvements upon his holdings, has fenced, tiled and drained his farm, built barns, granaries and other outbuildings and has recently erected an attractive home in which is found every modern comfort and luxury. In his farming operations he has been active and energetic, his labor resulting in the very gratifying success which he is now enjoying.

Mr. Oakland was united in marriage, March 25, 1903, to Miss Lizzie Jaycox, who was born in Blairsburg township, Hamilton county, on January 26, 1882. Her parents, Isaiah and Emma J. (Ireland) Jaycox, were among the pioneers in this section of Iowa. Her father was a native of New York who came to Hamilton county before his daughter was born. He died in Pipestone, Minnesota, on August 29, 1908. He had been twice married. His first wife was in her maidenhood Miss Mary Van Tassel, a native of Cold Springs, New York, who died in the same section. To that union were born three children: Mrs. Lucy Sayre, of Blairsburg; Howard, of Valentine, Nebraska; and Mrs. Charles W. Hoag, of Williams township. After the death of his first wife Mr. Jaycox was again married, his second union occurring on August 29, 1868, when he wedded Miss Emma J. Ireland, also a native of Cold Springs, New York, born September 12, 1851. To this union were born seven children, as follows: Benjamin, born December 27, 1869, now residing in Blairsburg; Guy C., born August 24, 1872, who is living in Kamrar, Iowa; Willard, born November 8, 1874, whose death occurred at the age of two years; Louis E., born April 1, 1877, a resident of Minneapolis, Minnesota; LeRoy I., born December 15, 1879, who is living at Woodstock, Minnesota; Mrs. Oakland; and Mrs. Mary E. Evans, born October 28, 1885, whose home is in Blairsburg. With the exception of the eldest, Benjamin, who is a native of Webster City, all of the children were born on a farm north of Blairsburg, in Blairsburg township. Mrs. Oakland has spent her life in Hamilton county with the exception of two years during which she resided with her father in Minnesota. She and her husband are the parents of two sons: Glen Adelbert, was born September 8, 1905, and died in infancy; and Lloyd, born on July 24, 1906, in Liberty township.

In his political views Mr. Oakland is a republican but takes no very active part in local affairs. He belongs to the Congregational church of Blairsburg and is a member of the Modern

Woodmen of America. He is a man of resourceful business ability who looks beyond the exigencies of the present to the needs of the future and utilizes the means at hand for the furtherance of his success. In all his dealings he is thoroughly reliable and honorable and is a worthy representative of that class of citizens who lead quiet, industrious, honest and useful lives and constitute the most forceful element in any community.

OLE J. HENDERSON.

Ole J. Henderson, a law graduate of the University of Minnesota and a practitioner at the bar of Webster City since 1903, is now filling the office of county attorney and is numbered among the leading and successful representatives of the bar of Hamilton county. He was born in this county in 1878, his parents being Lars and Sarah (Mikelson) Henryson. The father was born in Norway and in 1847 came to the United States. He made his way into the interior of the country, settling in Illinois, and in 1858 he took up his abode in Scott township, Hamilton county, Iowa. He was prominent among the Norwegian settlers of that section and held many official positions there, being trustee, a member of the board of supervisors and postmaster, in addition to holding other local offices. He was always loyal to the land of his adoption while retaining the love for the land of his birth. He died in 1896 and is still survived by his widow, who in December, 1911, passed the seventy-fifth milestone on life's journey.

Ole J. Henderson was reared under the parental roof and supplemented his public-school education by a course of study in the Iowa State College at Ames, from which he was graduated in 1898 with the degree of Bachelor of Science. He then pursued the law course in the University of Minnesota and was graduated in 1902 with the degree of Bachelor of Law. He afterward practiced for a short time in that state and then located in Webster City, having been continuously identified with the bar here since 1903. To him has been accorded a large and distinctively representative clientage, and his devotion to its interests is proverbial. He prepares his cases with great thoroughness and care, is sound in argument and logical in his deductions.

In 1910 he was elected to the office of county attorney for a term of two years, so that he is now the incumbent in that position. Since 1909 he has been lecturer on law in the Iowa State College and in that connection is winning a reputation equal to that which he has gained in the work of the courts. Aside from his profession he is known in financial circles of Story City, Iowa, as one of the directors of the First National Bank.

Mr. Henderson was married in 1906, in Boulder, Colorado, to Miss Mary Brown, a daughter of James A. Brown, of Vinton, Iowa, who was for many years secretary of the school for the blind at Vinton. Mr. and Mrs. Henderson make their home at No. 814 Bank street. They are members of the Congregational church and Mr. Henderson belongs also to the Webster City Country Club and to the Webster City Commercial Club—associations which indicate much of the nature of his interests and the rules which govern his life. His influence is always given on the side of progress, reform and improvement, and his own record is one of continuous advancement by reason of the wise use he has made of his opportunities.

THEODORE SAGAR.

A man who has for many years been actively interested in agriculture in Freemont township and who brings to his work an intelligent and progressive mind is Theodore Sagar, now cultivating one hundred and sixty acres of fertile land in that section. He is also interested in the cause of education and in the improvement of school facilities and has done efficient and intelligent work along this line. He was born in West Virginia in 1870 and is a son of Amos and Catherine (Hishman) Sagar. His parents were natives of the state in which he was born and his father followed agriculture in that region all during his life.

Theodore Sagar was educated in the public schools of West Virginia and followed the usual course of study. He laid aside his books at an early age and in 1891 came to Hamilton county, Iowa. He bought one hundred and sixty acres of unimproved prairie land on section 4, Freemont township, and upon this property he is now residing. He has developed and improved his place and his land is now under a high state of cultivation. He

erected the house in which he now resides and equipped it with all the modern conveniences which make for comfort and pleasure in life. He built barns and outbuildings upon his farm and tiled his land. He is keenly interested in the cause of education, this being one of the dominating activities of his life. He has been a member of the school board for many years and has served as its president since 1902. He brings to his work an intelligent understanding of everything connected with school equipment and requirements and during his period of office has added greatly to country school facilities.

In 1894 Mr. Sagar was united in marriage to Miss Hattie Jane Packman, a daughter of George Packman, one of the early settlers of Hamilton county who has resided in this section since 1860. To Mr. and Mrs. Sagar have been born four children: Robert Emery, Millie Catherine, Ethel and Theodore, Jr. Mr. Sagar is well known in his community and numbers among his friends most of the substantial and representative citizens of Hamilton county.

JOHN PARRY.

John Parry, who is living retired in Webster City, was for many years actively and successfully identified with the agricultural development of Hamilton county. He was born in England on the 12th of October, 1848, and is a son of John and Eliza (Frost) Parry, who passed their entire lives in the mother country.

The first twenty years in the life of John Parry were passed in the land of his birth, but at the expiration of that period he decided to become a citizen of America, so in 1868 he took passage for Quebec. His destination was Bureau county, Illinois, and in June, 1868, he located in the vicinity of the town of Sheffield, that county, where he worked as a farm hand for two years. He was thrifty and temperate in his habits and during that time he saved a sufficient sum from his meager earnings to enable him to farm on his own account as a renter. He continued to reside in Bureau county for another two years, but at the expiration of that time he disposed of his interests there and came to Iowa, settling in Cass county. After farming as a renter in that county for fourteen years, he went to Cherokee county, where he cultivated leased land until 1891. In the latter year he came to



John Parry
Mary A Parry

Hamilton county and bought eighty acres of partially improved land on section 28 of Freedom township. During the succeeding nine years he applied himself energetically to the further improvement and cultivation of this place, which he sold in 1900, investing the proceeds in one hundred and twenty acres of land on section 16 in the same township. Here he continued his agricultural pursuits until the 1st of March, 1908, when he retired from active work and removed to Webster City, where he is now residing.

In 1877, Mr. Parry was married to Miss Mary A. Powell, who was born in England on the 8th of May, 1851, her parents being Alfred and Mary Ann (Webb) Powell, who were born, reared and married in England, and there the mother also passed away. In 1869 the father emigrated to the United States, first locating in Iowa Falls, and buying land in Hamilton county. This tract was raw prairie land and while maintaining his residence in Iowa Falls he broke this land and prepared it for cultivation. After four years spent in Iowa Falls he moved onto his farm in Hamilton county, which he cultivated and improved until he finally retired from agricultural labors and removed to Webster City, where he died on March 13, 1897, at the venerable age of eighty-two years. He is buried in Graceland cemetery, this city. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Powell, Mrs. Parry being the third in order of birth. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Parry also numbered four: John, the only son, who died in childhood; Nellie Florence, the wife of William Carden, a farmer of Webster county, by whom she has had one child; Etheldra Sarah, who married L. B. Cottington, a farmer of this county, to whom have been born four children; and Elizabeth Mary, who died in childhood. Mr. and Mrs. Parry have a very pleasant residence and many friends in Webster City, and by reason of their diligence and thrift in early life are able to spend their latter years in well earned ease and comfort.

MARTIN L. HENDERSON.

Martin L. Henderson is numbered among the men of Hamilton county who by keeping abreast of modern advancement in agricultural methods, by being progressive, up-to-date and systematic in their policies and by constantly improving and developing their fine farms are rapidly raising agriculture to the

plane of a definite science. He owns and operates three hundred and seventy acres of productive land in Ellsworth township and is ranked among the individual forces in the development and advancement of his section. He is a native of Hamilton county, a son of a pioneer in its settlement and has always been identified with the agricultural interests of his community. He was born in Scott township, January 19, 1864, a son of Lars and Sarah (Mikelson) Henryson. His father was born in Norway, March 22, 1822, and came to Hamilton county in 1858. Although he was a carpenter by trade he engaged in general agricultural pursuits during the greater period of his residence in America and died in Randall, November 12, 1896. His wife was a native of Norway, born in 1836, and she makes her home in Randall. In their family were seven children: Martin L., of this review; Michas, who is now living in Story City; Annas M., who is serving as postmaster of Story City; Alexander, of Story City; Mrs. Jacob Williams, whose husband is serving as postmaster of Randall; Ole J., who is county attorney of Hamilton county; and Mrs. Maggie Sowers, who resides in Ellsworth township. All of the children were born and reared in Scott township. Lars Henryson, the father of our subject, was one of the early settlers in Hamilton county and his life and activities were identified with a period of development and change. When he and his wife came to this part of Iowa they had Indians for neighbors, and there were but few log houses in the vicinity. They were, indeed, pioneers and it can be truthfully said that Lars Henryson lightened the burdens of many poor settlers, rendering them charity and able service, and aiding in the accomplishment of their prosperity and success in order that Hamilton county might in the future have the very best class of people as factors in its development. That he was a splendid judge of men is best evidenced by the rapid growth of this part of the country. This history would be far from complete were we to omit reference to one who did so much unselfish work in pioneer times and who was such an important factor in making the people of Hamilton county prosperous, happy and contented. He left a heritage to those who followed him greater than any accumulation of material wealth—"He dealt fairly and justly with his fellow-men, never seeking to take any advantage that would materially aid himself." This is the sum and substance of his life work.

Martin Henderson was educated in the public schools of his native section and his early life was spent upon his father's farm. He has always been identified with agricultural pursuits and at the present time owns three hundred and seventy acres in Ellsworth township, equipped with all the improvements necessary to the conduct and management of two model farms. He has erected many large barns, sheds and silos and has the finest granary in Hamilton county. This he has equipped with scales to weigh the grain, an elevator to carry the corn and oats to two large bins, each of which has a capacity of six thousand bushels. A large gasoline engine does the elevating and in addition to this Mr. Henderson has a grain cleaner and a sheller which is also attached to the engine. He has been foremost in establishing these advantages for the modern conduct of a farm and is very enthusiastic over every new development and improvement—a leader as it were in eliminating the drudgery of farm life in the west. He resides upon his property in a comfortable, modern and well furnished home, equipped with all necessary conveniences and accessories. He gives most of his time to stockraising.

Mr. Henderson was united in marriage June 4, 1889, to Miss Josephine Johnson, who was born in La Salle county, Illinois, December 25, 1863, a daughter of John and Sophia (Olson) Johnson, natives of Norway. Her mother passed away in Benton county, Iowa, and her father died in the same section August 9, 1873. In their family were four children: Mrs. Delia Melberg, of Benton county, Iowa; Mrs. Sarah Tjernagel, of Story City; Josephine, the wife of our subject; and Martin, who resides in Scott township. Mrs. Henderson came to Iowa with her parents in 1865 and remained at home until her marriage. She and her husband became the parents of seven children: Mrs. Myrtle Josephine Erickson, who was born June 22, 1891, and who resides in Randall; Walter LeRoy, whose birth occurred June 29, 1892, who during his vacations assists his father in the conduct of the home farm; Frances Cornelia, and Porter Irving, both of whom reside at home; twins, who died in infancy; and Porter I., who passed away at the age of three years. All the children were born in Randall. Mrs. Erickson, in addition to securing a common-school education attended Jewell College of Jewell, while Walter has attended Morning-side College, and is at present a student at Cornell College, Mount Vernon, Iowa.

In his political affiliations Mr. Henderson is a consistent republican and has served as justice of the peace. For a number of years he held the position of township trustee and was secretary of the school board for almost fifteen years. He has carried on his father's work of development and improvement, changing his methods to keep pace with modern advancement but adhering steadily to the old standards of honesty and industry. He has shown a progressive spirit and intelligent business discrimination combined with a faculty for making his ability effective and is a native son of whom Hamilton county has every reason to be proud.

PETER SCHOMER.

Peter Schomer is well known in Webster City as one of its leading coal merchants and is a man who has been prominent in business circles of the community and active in the promotion of its municipal progress since 1892. He is a native of Germany, born September 26, 1858. His parents were Nicholas and Magdalene (Schmalen) Schomer, also natives of Germany, who came to the United States in 1863. They arrived in Chicago on the 4th of July of that year and went immediately to the vicinity of Aurora, Illinois, where they resided for five years. In the summer of 1868 they established their residence in Hamilton county, Iowa, where the father successfully followed farming for some time and later was engaged in a commercial enterprise in Webster City until his death, which occurred when he was seventy-three years of age. His wife passed away in Hamilton county in the seventy-ninth year of her age.

Peter Schomer was educated in the public schools of Iowa and as a boy assisted his father in the work of cultivating the soil. He was actively engaged in this occupation until he was eighteen years of age, when with his parents he removed to Webster City and was associated with his father in business until 1892. In 1899 he formed a partnership with D. F. Shea in a harness enterprise which he operated with some success for one year. His present coal business was established in 1902 and has grown since that time to be one of the important industries of the kind in Webster City. Mr. Schomer has always given his

personal attention to the conduct of his business and his well directed energy has resulted in a gratifying measure of success. His business is operated under principles of honor and integrity and its commercial standards are high and worthy.

On October 13, 1902, Mr. Schomer was united in marriage to Mrs. Mary H. Murphy, a daughter of James Hennebery, of Webster City. She died November 13, 1911. By her first marriage she became the mother of one child, Margie Murphy, who is a teacher in the kindergarten connected with the Webster City public schools.

Mr. Schomer resides at No. 221 Prospect avenue and has many friends in Webster City who are attached to him by the warm ties of personal regard. Politically he gives his allegiance to the democratic party but has never taken an active interest in public affairs. He belongs to Webster City Camp, No. 416, M. W. A., and has held this membership since 1899. In the Knights of Columbus he is affiliated with Bishop Clement Smith Council, No. 838, and has been connected with the organization since 1906. He now holds the office of trustee of the lodge. Mr. Schomer is a member of the Roman Catholic church and his religion influences and elevates his life. There are degrees of financial success in the world but no one can gain more personal recognition than is embodied in the title of an honest man. This title has never been denied Mr. Schomer, for his honesty and integrity of purpose dominate his activity and influence his business and individual life.

EDWARD L. EPPARD.

Edward L. Eppard was born on section sixteen, Liberty township, Hamilton county, Iowa, on April 15, 1874, grew to manhood there and has followed farming since the beginning of his active career. He has his tract of land highly improved and intelligently developed, and has achieved his prosperity by earnest work along progressive lines. He is a son of George W. and Emily E. (Huff) Eppard. His father was born in Miami county, Indiana. He enlisted in the Union army for service in the Civil war as member of Company K, One Hundred and First Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and after three years received an honorable

discharge. He returned to Indiana and resided in various parts of the state until 1873. In that year he moved to his farm, one hundred and sixty acres of land in Hamilton county, Iowa, which he had purchased in 1869. At the time he removed to this farm the county was all an unbroken range and the conditions of living were extremely primitive. He broke the soil, improved, developed and cultivated his property, and was numbered among the successful pioneers. He resided here until his death which occurred in Liberty township, in January, 1897. The mother of our subject was in her maidenhood Miss Emily E. Huff, and was the parents of four children, three of whom are still living: Edward L., the subject of this sketch; J. W., of Liberty township; and Edith M., who is residing with her brother upon his farm.

Edward Eppard attended the district schools of Hamilton county and later took a commercial course in Jewell College. He supplemented this by a few years' attendance at Ellsworth College, and since laying aside his books has followed farming. He is now residing upon his father's homestead which is one of the best improved farms in Liberty township. His place is equipped with large barns and granaries which have replaced the original structures. Mr. Eppard has just removed one of the first buildings which his father erected. His residence which he built a few years ago is one of the commodious, substantial and beautiful homes in Hamilton county. Mr. Eppard's success has been achieved by diligence and industry and he now owns one hundred and sixty acres of the most fertile and productive land in Iowa.

On December 20, 1911, Mr. Eppard was united in marriage to Miss Bessie Vogelsang, who was born in Arlington, Fayette county, Iowa, January 29, 1886. She attended the public schools of her native district and grew to womanhood there.

In his political views Mr. Eppard is a consistent republican, and his influence is weighty in the affairs of local organizations. He has been township assessor for six years and made a record for ability and efficiency as a public official. He has been for the past ten years a member of the republican county central committee. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, holding his membership in Blairsburg, and is a director of the Webster County Mutual Insurance Association. He studies farming in all its different phases and has been successful from the be-

ginning because of his personal efficiency. He is ranked among the enterprising and substantial citizens of his district, and his activities are regarded as a valuable influence in agricultural development.

E. D. BURGESS.

E. D. Burgess is now librarian of the Kendall Young Library of Webster City, Iowa, and has done efficient work in this capacity since 1898. He was born in 1851 at Lafayette, New Jersey, and is a son of Jesse Raymond and Huldah Lanning (Dodder) Burgess. His parents came to Hamilton county in 1857 and settled in Webster City where the father practiced medicine until his death. The mother is still living in this city.

After he obtained his grammar-school education Mr. Burgess entered the State University of Iowa and attended within a few months of graduation. He studied civil engineering and followed that profession until 1878. He studied law and was admitted to the bar of Iowa and practiced in that state for twenty years. In 1898 he became librarian of the Kendall Young Library and has retained this identification since that time.

In 1883 Mr. Burgess was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Bassett Sladden, a daughter of W. C. Sladden of Webster City. Mr. and Mrs. Burgess reside at No. 902 Wilson avenue and have many friends in the social circles of the city in which they live. Mr. Burgess is a man of wide reading and has a cultivated and well trained mind. He has been of valuable assistance to patrons of the library in directing their reading.

ROY GRANT AUSTIN.

Roy Grant Austin is a civil engineer of Webster City and in the practice of his profession is specializing in drainage work. He was born October 8, 1879, in this city, his parents being A. H. and Chloe (Scullin) Austin. The father came to Hamilton county in 1877 and is a bridge contractor, still residing in Webster City. He has long occupied a creditable position in connection with

industrial activity here, the excellence of his work bringing to him a liberal and growing patronage.

At the usual age Roy G. Austin entered the public schools and after completing a course of study therein matriculated in the Iowa State College at Ames, from which he was graduated in 1904 with the degree of Civil Engineer. He started in drainage work in Humboldt county, Iowa, and in the fall of 1904 became connected with the American Bridge Company at Ambridge, Pennsylvania, in the capacity of draftsman. He was with that company for three years and in 1907 returned to Webster City, where he opened an office. Here he does general civil engineering work, yet makes a specialty of drainage and in this connection his services are in constant demand. He was county surveyor from January 1, 1909, until January 1, 1912, when the office was discontinued.

In November, 1910, Mr. Austin was united in marriage to Miss Lola Derr, her father being S. D. Derr, who has been a resident of Hamilton county for the past thirty-five years. Our subject and his wife have one daughter, Margaret Ann, whose birth occurred on the 12th of September, 1911. Mr. and Mrs. Austin have their home on Wilson avenue. They are widely known here and occupy an enviable position in social circles. Mr. Austin is yet a comparatively young man but has made a creditable record in connection with his chosen profession. He has given ample demonstration of his ability to handle complex engineering problems and his work at all times has been followed by such practical and excellent results that his patronage has steadily increased.

STEPHEN DOUGLAS PRINGLE.

Stephen Douglas Pringle is successfully engaged in general agricultural pursuits and stock-raising in Cass township, Hamilton county, where he owns one hundred and eighty-four and a half acres of valuable and productive land located on sections 19 and 30. He is a native of Iowa, his birth having occurred in Keokuk county on the 26th of October, 1860, and a son of Thomas and Nancy (Welch) Pringle. The father was a native of Indiana and the mother of West Virginia. They were married in Iowa, and soon thereafter located on govern-



S. D. PRINGLE AND FAMILY

ment land in Keokuk county. Thomas Pringle assiduously applied himself to the further improvement and cultivation of his farm until 1874, when he sold it and came to Hamilton county. Here he purchased two hundred and forty acres of land located on section 3, Cass township, and continued his agricultural pursuits for nearly twenty years. About 1892, he sold his farm and retired from active life, having accumulated a competence that made it possible for him to spend his latter days in well earned ease. For about six years thereafter he made his home in Webster City, but he subsequently removed to Toledo, this state, and there he passed away in the spring of 1905, at the venerable age of eighty-six years and eight months. He had long survived the mother, whose death occurred on the 5th of January, 1884, when she had reached the age of sixty years. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Pringle numbered fourteen, our subject being the eighth in order of birth.

The education of Stephen D. Pringle was acquired in the common schools of this state, and while engaged in the mastery of the common branches he was familiarizing himself with the practical duties of an agriculturist by assisting his father with the work of the fields and care of the stock. He remained at home until he was twenty-three years of age, when he married and began farming on his own account. For sixteen years thereafter he engaged in the cultivation of one hundred and twenty acres of land which he had previously purchased in Wright county, but at the expiration of that time he disposed of his holdings and invested the proceeds in a hundred and sixty-two acre tract in Cass township, this county. He likewise sold this place in 1898 and purchased his present farm, comprised of one hundred and eighty-four and a half acres. That Mr. Pringle is enterprising and progressive in his agricultural methods is manifested by the general appearance and condition of his homestead. His entire holding is fenced, one hundred acres of it hog tight, and his fields are tiled and under high cultivation. One hundred and forty acres of his land is devoted to general farming and in connection with this he engages in stock-raising.

On the 22d of February, 1883, Mr. Pringle was married to Miss Nettie Segar, the fifth child in a family of fourteen and a daughter of B. B. Segar. She was born on the 31st of March, 1862, and passed away at the age of twenty-five years, her death occurring on May 5, 1887. On the 14th of April, 1888, Mr. Pringle was married to Miss Mary Segar, a sister of his former wife and next to the youngest member of the family, her natal day being May 26, 1868. Five chil-

dren have been born to Mr. Pringle and his second wife, of whom three died in infancy. Elva May, the elder of the two daughters who are living, is a student in the high school at Webster City and Hattie Alice is attending the district school.

Mr. and Mrs. Pringle are active members of the United Brethren church. He is serving as class leader and superintendent of the Sunday school and for four years was trustee and steward. In politics he is a democrat, but has never been identified with any official position. Mr. Pringle is a public-spirited man and assists in forwarding every movement which he feels will elevate the standards of the community along intellectual, moral or social lines, his influence always being exerted in behalf of progress and development.

JOHN H. SPARBOE.

There is no family in Hamilton county spoken of in terms of higher respect than the Sparboe, whose members have figured prominently in the agricultural, business and political circles of the communities in which they reside. One of the representatives, John H. Sparboe, has for many years been actively and successfully identified with the agricultural development of Scott township, where he owns four hundred acres of land. He is a native of Norway, his birth having there occurred on the 3d of June, 1863, and is the eldest in a family of four sons, the youngest of whom, O. A. B. Sparboe, has passed away. The other two brothers, Hartvig M. and Carl, are mentioned at greater length elsewhere in this work under their respective names. The parents, Anton and Bergitte (Karolusson) Sparboe, were born, reared and married in the Norseland, where the father passed away in 1870, three days before the birth of the youngest son. For three years after the death of her husband the mother continued to reside in her native land. Believing that America would afford her sons better opportunities and greater advantages than the old country, she resolved to establish a home for them here and in 1873 took passage for the United States, accompanied by her four sons and her mother. Upon their arrival in this country the family made their way from the Atlantic coast to Hamilton county, settling in Scott township. Here Mrs. Sparboe, who has attained the advanced age of eighty-four years, still makes her home. Her sons have all grown up to be a credit to her and the community, but their success has not

caused them to neglect the mother, who made untold sacrifices for them, and she is spending her latter years in comfort on a farm which they purchased for her.

John H. Sparboe was a child of seven years when his father died. Being the eldest of the family he was compelled to assume many of the responsibilities of manhood at an age when the thoughts of the average lad are largely devoted to youthful sports. His early advantages were necessarily limited, but his home training was such as to qualify him well for the duties of life, and as he has made the most of every opportunity he is today numbered among the foremost men of his community. He has always engaged in farming, in which he has met with more than average success. Early in life he realized that he was dependent upon his own efforts only, and applied himself to anything he undertook with the diligence and determination which pave the way to prosperity. He owns four hundred acres of land located on sections 8, 16 and 17, on which he has placed two sets of improvements, those on the home farm being as good as are to be found in the county. Here he engages in diversified farming and also raises stock. He directs his work in a systematic manner, with careful regard for every detail, and the results are satisfactory, his fields annually yielding abundant harvests. His farm presents a most attractive appearance with its substantial residence, large barns and well-kept fields, and clearly manifests that its operation is being directed in a methodical and business-like manner.

Mr. Sparboe was married on June 29, 1904, to Miss Nettie Branjord, whose birth occurred in Scott township on the 24th of November, 1875, and there she was likewise reared. She had the privilege of an excellent education, in the pursuit of which she not only attended the Lutheran Normal School at Sioux Falls, South Dakota, but also the Lutheran Ladies' Seminary at Redwing, Minnesota, in 1901-02. She is a daughter of Ole O. and Helen Christina (Rahto) Branjord, natives of Norway. In the early years of their domestic life they emigrated to the United States, coming direct to Iowa. They first located in Hardin county, coming from there to Scott township in 1871. Here the father, who was a farmer, continued his agricultural pursuits for many years, but lives since the spring of 1906 retired and he and the mother are spending their latter days in a comfortable home in Ellsworth. They still own the home farm, however, known as "Elm Lawn," which they have turned over to the management of their youngest son. To them were born eleven children: Olena Christina, Mary Antoinette and Martin, deceased; Berent M., a suc-

cessful attorney of Spokane, Washington; Olena and Mary, also deceased; Mrs. Sparboe; Christina and Oluf, deceased; Nettie, second of the name, who died in Clinton, Iowa; and Oluf Martin Christian, a resident of Scott township, who is mentioned more fully elsewhere in this work. The two first named were born in Norway, the next two in Hardin county and the younger members of the family in Scott township. To Mr. and Mrs. Sparboe has been born one son, John Henry, Jr., whose natal day was October 22, 1905.

Mr. and Mrs. Sparboe are members of the Congregational church of Ellsworth, of which organization he is a charter member. He is a man with high standards of citizenship, and has for many years taken an active interest in political affairs, giving his support to the democratic party. He has served with efficiency as township trustee and justice of the peace, while for two terms he was a member of the board of county supervisors. Mr. Sparboe is interested in all matters affecting the upbuilding of the community, and can be depended upon to support every progressive movement, which appeals to him as being practical. In his business transactions as in the fulfilment of his official duties he is straightforward and honorable, and is held in high regard by his neighbors and fellow citizens, who through long years of acquaintance have found him to be thoroughly trustworthy and reliable.

F. P. HENDERSON.

F. P. Henderson, postmaster of Kamrar and prominently connected with the furniture business in Hamilton county, was born in West Chester, Chester county, Pennsylvania, November 2, 1855. He is a son of Alexander and Harriet (Quay) Henderson, the former a native of the Isle of Man and the latter of Pennsylvania. Both were pioneers in Iowa, having crossed the plains to this state in early times, making the journey in a covered wagon. After his arrival the father took up land in Hamilton county and farmed successfully for a number of years. Eventually, however, he removed to Benton county, where he died in the seventy-eighth year of his age. His wife passed away in the same section of the state and was sixty-eight years old at the time of her death. In their family were eight children, all born in Pennsylvania: Mrs. Abbie Oppelt, who died in Benton county, Iowa,

in 1882; William H., who died while serving his country as a member of the Thirteenth Iowa Volunteer Infantry in the Civil war; George G., who gave his services to the Federal government as a member of the Seventh Iowa Cavalry and who was drowned at Fort Kearney; L. Q., who resides in Kamrar; Joseph, of Fort Dodge; John G., who died in Kansas; F. P., of this review; and Mrs. Martha Jane Oppelt, who lives in Vinton, Benton county.

F. P. Henderson was only two years of age when his parents came to Henry county, Iowa. In 1861 they moved to Benton county and remained in that section until 1876. Consequently, Mr. Henderson's education was acquired in the public schools of that section and he followed the usual course of studies until he laid aside his books. At the age of twenty-one he came to Hamilton county and purchased land, which he developed and improved for four years. At the end of that time he gave his attention to the stone mason's trade, which he had learned in his youth, and is still active at this occupation, although he does not work at it so steadily as formerly. In April, 1910, he secured control of an excellent furniture business in Kamrar and has been managing it successfully since that time. He makes quality rather than quantity his aim in selecting his goods and has thus been unusually successful in having on hand the styles of furniture most in demand. His patronage has substantially increased during the two years of his activity, as a result of his progressive business methods and his constant courtesy.

In the same year that Mr. Henderson came to Kamrar he was appointed postmaster and has been serving since that time ably and conscientiously and to the complete satisfaction of the general public. He owns besides his furniture business his attractive home in Kamrar, which is supplied with all the appointments and comforts found in a modern dwelling.

In Homer, Hamilton county, in 1880, Mr. Henderson was united in marriage to Miss Mary Emma Dale, born in Clearfield county, Pennsylvania, October 20, 1858. With her parents, Joseph and Mary (Beightol) Dale, she came to Hamilton county in the fall of 1863 and has made this section her home since that time. Her father was a native of Pennsylvania and died in Bancroft, Iowa, at the advanced age of eighty-three. Her mother, also a native of Pennsylvania, died near Homer, when she was fifty-one years of age. Five of the children born to their union

grew to maturity, namely: William Bigler and James Buchanan, both of whom have passed away; Mary Emma, the wife of the subject of this review; Mrs. Julia Ann Graham, deceased; and Mrs. Lucretia Adella Graham, who lives in Burt, Iowa. To Mr. and Mrs. Henderson have been born seven children, of whom four daughters and one son are living. They are: Mrs. Maude Bau-
man, who resides at Primghar, O'Brien county, Iowa; Mrs. Nellie Pearson, who resides near Ellsworth; Mrs. Evelyn Wille, of Buck-
eye, Iowa; Mrs. Adella Woodward, who makes her home at Maurice; and Harold A., who resides with his parents in Kamrar. The other children born to Mr. and Mrs. Henderson died in infancy.

Mr. Henderson gives his allegiance to the republican party and has held several important local offices, including that of township assessor of Kamrar. In this position he did successful work for six years and is serving at the present time as post-
master. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He and his wife are exemplary people, of broad and liberal inter-
ests, and constant readers of the best literature. The thirty-two
years of their married life have been passed quietly and serenely in earnest work so that their fortune today is amply sufficient to give them many of the pleasures, comforts and luxuries of life.

EDWARD J. KEEGAN.

Edward J. Keegan, who engages in the livery business in Williams, is one of Hamilton county's self-made men, such success as has come to him being the direct result of his own diligence and enterprise. He was born in Chicago, Illinois, on the 28th of November, 1881, and is a son of John and Mary (Comiskey) Keegan. The parents were born, reared and married in Illinois, the father's birth having occurred in Putnam county, on the 27th of August, 1853, and that of the mother in La Salle county, that state. In 1883, they located on a farm in the vicinity of Streator, Illinois, remaining there until 1887, when they came to the city of Streator. Here the mother passed away, but the father is still living and now makes his home with the subject of this sketch at Williams. Mr. and Mrs. Keegan had five children, the son Edward J. being the youngest. In order of birth the others are as follows: Frank, whose

birth occurred on February 26, 1876, a resident of Louisville, Kentucky; John M., whose natal day was the 13th of August, of Covington, Kentucky; Maggie, who was born on the 18th of January, 1879, the wife of a Mr. Greenley, of Dubuque, Iowa; and Lydia, who was born in 1879, and died in that year.

Edward J. Keegan was a child of two years when his parents removed to Streator and a youth of sixteen when he came to Iowa. Having been reared on a farm, he was early trained to agricultural pursuits and worked out as a farm hand in the vicinity of Williams, when he first came to Hamilton county. He subsequently purchased a dray line which he operated until 1911, when he and his brother-in-law, John Ricke, engaged in the livery business. They have one of the best equipped barns in the county, having not only a fine line of teams and vehicles of various kinds, but automobiles. They are both energetic, capable men, and are meeting with success in the development of their business. Mr. Keegan owns his residence and has other property interests in Williams.

The 7th of February, 1906, was the wedding day of Mr. Keegan and Miss Rose Ricke, who was born near East Dubuque, Jo Daviess county, Illinois, on the 18th of March, 1883, and is a daughter of Bernard and Theresa (Fleege) Ricke. The father was born in Freren, Hanover, Germany, on April 25, 1837, and emigrated to the United States in 1854. Here he subsequently met and married Miss Fleege, who was born in Lengerich, Hanover, on the 7th of October, 1842, and came to America with her family in 1846. They resided for some years in Illinois, coming from there to Hamilton county in 1884. Upon their arrival here they settled on a farm in this township, located four and a half miles north of Williams, which the father successfully cultivated until the spring of 1906, when he retired from active work and removed to Williams. Here he passed away on March 19, 1909, but the mother is still living and continues to make her home in Williams in the residence which they purchased when they first left the farm. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Ricke numbered twelve: Bernard, who was born on the 11th of August, 1860, and died at the age of four years; Henry, born on May 18, 1862, a resident of Kossuth county, Iowa; Mary, who was born on March 30, 1864, the wife of Henry Hendricks, of Jo Daviess county, Illinois; Christina, who was born May 15, 1866, now Mrs. Fred Engelking of Lyon county, Iowa; August, whose natal day was February 13, 1868, a resident of Lyon county; Frank, who was born on the 18th of February, 1870, a resident of Redwood county, Minne-

sota; William, who was born April 10, 1872, and died on the 8th of December, 1907; Clemons, whose natal day was January 30, 1874, residing in Williams township; a son born on the 1st of May, 1876, who died in infancy; John, whose birth occurred January 18, 1878, engaged in business with Mr. Keegan; Theresa, who was born on July 20, 1880, now Mrs. Lutzke of Clarksville, Iowa; and Mrs. Keegan. The latter is the mother of one son, Everett William, who was born on March 25, 1908; and a daughter, Velora Agnes, whose natal day was May 5, 1910.

Mr. and Mrs. Keegan are communicants of the Roman Catholic church and in politics he is a republican. He is a young man of more than average capability, and is making rapid and orderly progress in his business career, which gives every assurance of being a successful and highly creditable one.

J. PARKER TALCOTT.

J. Parker Talcott, who for more than twenty years has been engaged in the hardware business in Williams, is a worthy representative of the commercial interests of Hamilton county, where he has achieved the success that invariably rewards earnest and intelligent effort in the honorable pursuit of a definite purpose. He was born in Williston, Vermont, on the 8th of January, 1860, and is a son of Grove G. and Sylvia A. (Skinner) Talcott, also natives of the Green Mountain state. They removed to Illinois in 1869, settling in Cook county, whence they later removed to Hamilton county, Iowa. The father passed away in Rose Grove township in 1892, at the age of fifty-eight years. He is survived by the mother, who is now seventy-four and makes her home in Cook county, Illinois. Nine children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Talcott, three of whom died in infancy. Of the six who are living our subject is the second in order of birth, the others being as follows: Fred M., who is residing in Rose Grove township, Hamilton county; Frances S., who is librarian in the Lewis Institute of Chicago; Mary B., who was a nurse at Camp Thomas, Chickamauga, during the Spanish-American war, going from there to the Philippines, where she remained for two years, and was subsequently appointed head nurse of the Illinois State Charitable Eye and Ear Infirmary, in which capacity she is still serving; Z. S., who resides in Rose Grove township, Hamil-



J. PARKER TALCOTT

ton county; and Harry H., who was graduated from the University of Michigan, and later took a four-year course in the Chicago Law School, and is now engaged in the practice of his profession in the latter city. All of the family were born in Vermont with the exception of the last named, who is a native of Cook county, Illinois.

J. Parker Talcott was a lad of nine years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Illinois, where he completed his education in the public schools and was reared to manhood. His boyhood and youth were passed on the home farm, in the cultivation of which he early began to assist his father, thus becoming familiar with the work and duties of the agriculturist. After leaving home he began farming on his own account and in 1884 came to Hamilton county, locating in the vicinity of Williams, where he continued his agricultural pursuits for about eight years. In 1892, he gave up farming and coming to Williams engaged in the hardware business, and has ever since devoted his energies to commercial activities. His store is not only one of the largest and most thriving enterprises of Williams but of the entire county. He carries an extensive stock of shelf and heavy hardware, cutlery, sewing machines, harness, farming implements, pianos, phonographs and automobiles, the quality of which is fully commensurate in every respect with the price. With the increase of his business Mr. Talcott has extended the scope of his activities and he now maintains a branch store at Blairsburg and owns a third interest in the Webster City Implement Company. He also owns the business block where his store is located and his residence in Williams.

On the 7th of November, 1887, Mr. Talcott was married to Miss Laura A. Laude, who was born in Dubuque county, Iowa, on the 6th of October, 1864, and came to Hamilton county with her brothers in 1883. She is a daughter of Peter and Mary Laude, natives of France, who came to America in early life and subsequently settled in Dubuque county, where the mother passed away in 1873. The father was living in Woodbury county, this state, at the time of his death, which occurred in 1890, at the age of seventy-five years. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Laude numbered fourteen children, seven boys and seven girls.

To Mr. and Mrs. Talcott have been born five children, the two eldest of whom are natives of Rose Grove township, while the other three were born in Williams. In order of birth they are as follows: Sylvia S., who was born on the 4th of September, 1889, and after graduating from the Williams high school continued her education

in the Sisters School at Madison, Wisconsin, and is now studying music in Chicago; George G., who was born January 31, 1892, and following his graduation from high school studied at Ames for a year and then began his business career in his father's store, where he is in charge of the automobile department; J. P., Jr., who was born August 26, 1894, a graduate of the Williams high school and a senior in the high school of Webster City; Mary B., a student of the Williams high school, who was born September 3, 1896; and Frances A., who was born on the 1st of February, 1898, and died at the age of one year.

The religious faith of the family is manifested through their membership in the Presbyterian church. Fraternally Mr. Talcott is affiliated with Alamo Lodge, No. 547, A. F. & A. M.; and he is a charter member of Williams Camp, No. 1844, M. W. A. In politics he is a republican and has been a member of the board of education and of the town council. In matters of citizenship Mr. Talcott is public-spirited and enterprising and in the discharge of his public duties manifests the same promptitude, exactness and general efficiency that characterize his business transactions.

EUGENE S. BOUDINOT.

Gradually working his way upward, Eugene S. Boudinot is now well established in the profession of civil engineering. He makes his home in Webster City, where he has lived since the spring of 1909. Although one of the more recent arrivals here, he has demonstrated his power and ability to perform difficult and complex engineering feats and has today a large professional clientele. He was born in Danville, Illinois, January 18, 1877, and is a direct descendant of Elias Boudinot, who was the first president of the continental congress, then sitting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. His father, E. E. Boudinot, was a graduate pharmacist, being one of the first to complete a course in pharmacy in the University of Pennsylvania. He also won the degree of D. D. S., but never engaged in the practice of dentistry. He was likewise a graduate of Wabash College at Crawfordsville, Indiana, completing the course in the same class with General Lew Wallace, Governor Morton and several other men who rose to distinction in public life. For many years Mr. Boudinot was a successful druggist of Danville. He became prominent in political

circles of the state and was a member of the one hundred and third Illinois general assembly, which elected John A. Logan to the office of United States senator. He died in 1902 at the age of fifty-three years, while his wife passed away in 1898 at the age of forty-seven years. Mrs. Boudinot bore the maiden name of Sarah Stimson and was a direct descendant in the maternal line of Governor Braddock of Philadelphia.

Eugene S. Boudinot was educated in the public schools of Danville, the Rose Polytechnic Institute at Terre Haute, Indiana, and in the University of Illinois at Champaign, where he pursued the engineering course. He began working for the Illinois Central Railroad Company on their extension from Fort Dodge to Omaha, Nebraska, being thus employed until 1900, when he was elected county surveyor of Vermilion county, Illinois. He occupied that position creditably and continuously until 1907, after which he went to Red Oak, Iowa, and was city engineer there until the spring of 1909. In that year he came to Webster City, where he has since followed his profession and, while he does all kinds of civil engineering work, he specializes as a drainage engineer.

In 1903, Mr. Boudinot was joined in wedlock to Miss Margaret Fisher, her father being M. E. Fisher, a wholesale grocer of Red Oak, Iowa. Mr. Boudinot has an interesting military chapter in his life history, having been a member of Battery A of the Illinois National Guard of Danville during the strike period from 1892 until 1894. He acted as corporal of his battery and was on active duty in connection with the strikes. His fraternal relations are with the Masons of Danville and the Elks of Webster City and his religious faith is evidenced in his membership in the First Presbyterian church. His has been a well spent life, devoted to his chosen profession, the duties of which he capably and conscientiously discharges.

GUY THOMAS McCauliff, M. D.

In the history of the medical profession in Hamilton county it is imperative that mention be made of Dr. G. T. McCauliff, today recognized as one of the leading physicians and surgeons of Webster City, his prominence and success being the legitimate outcome of careful and thorough preparatory training and of unfaltering devotion to duty since entering upon active practice.

He was born October 26, 1874, near Bristow, Butler county, Iowa, and is a son of John and Susan Frances (Biggs) McCauliff. His ancestry can be traced back to the Rev. John Robinson, who was born in Lincolnshire, England, in 1575, and who entered Corpus Christi College at Cambridge in 1592, winning a fellowship in 1598. He resigned in 1604 and entered upon his ministerial duties in and near Norfolk, England. In 1606 the church at Scrooby, in Nottinghamshire, was formed by "divers goodly Christians who entered into covenant to walk with God, according to the primitive pattern in the word of God." Of this church John Robinson became the preacher, together with Richard Clifton. After about a year they resolved to go over into Holland, in 1607, but it does not appear that Clifton went. The Rev. John Robinson proceeded first to Amsterdam and in 1609 removed to Leyden. In 1611 his house was the place of worship for the congregation. About 1617 they resolved to emigrate to the new world, their plans being carried out in 1620. They were the passengers who made the historic voyage on the Mayflower. John Robinson intended to follow at no distant date but died of the plague at Leyden, February 19, 1625, o. s., or March 1, 1625, n. s. History says: "More than any other man of modern times, John Robinson is regarded as the father of Congregationalism." He married Bridget White and had seven children, his third child being Isaac Robinson, who was born in 1610 and who in 1631 sailed for New England. He settled in Plymouth, Massachusetts, and was married June 27, 1636, to Margaret Hanford, who died in 1649. In 1650 he married again and his death occurred in 1704, when he was ninety-four years of age. He had six children by his first wife and four by his second wife. One of these, Peter Robinson, born between 1653 and 1666, in Barnstable, Massachusetts, married Experience Manton and in 1723 moved to Scotland, Connecticut. His death occurred ten years later.

Peter Robinson, son of Peter and Experience Robinson, was born about 1697 and married Ruth Fuller in 1725. He resided in Scotland, Connecticut, to the time of his death. One of his twelve children was Abner Robinson, an officer of the Revolutionary war, who served as an ensign at the battle of Bunker Hill and later became a lieutenant and afterward a captain. His son, Experience Robinson, born in 1728, had three sons, including Elias Robinson, who was born in Norwich, Connecticut, April 14, 1757, and was married August 26, 1779, to Sybil Lillie. He was a sol-

dier of the Revolutionary war and old documents give the following record: "Elias Robinson, Windham, Connecticut: sergeant, March 12, 1777; ensign, December 27, 1777; lieutenant, October 26, 1780; retired as lieutenant in June, 1782." He was also a member of the Society of Cincinnati, and he died February 28, 1805. His son, Elias Robinson, born November 13, 1780, was married in 1808 to Fanny Francis and they had a daughter, Angeline, who was born March 2, 1812, and was married December 8, 1838, to James Biggs, of Milford Center, Ohio. A daughter of this marriage was Susan Frances Biggs, who was born September 5, 1841, in Wiota, Wisconsin, and became the mother of Dr. McCauliff. His grandfather, James Biggs, was a general in the Black Hawk war, also represented his district in the state legislature of Wisconsin and aided in framing the Wisconsin state constitution, which was signed February 1, 1848.

As previously stated, Susan Frances Biggs became the wife of John McCauliff, who was a farmer by occupation and a veteran of the Civil war, serving for three years with the Thirty-first Wisconsin Regiment. He was with Sherman on the march to the sea and participated in various hotly contested engagements. In 1870 he removed to Iowa and from 1895 until 1910 was postmaster at Aredale, Iowa, where he died in August, 1910, when sixty-eight years of age. His widow still survives and is living in Aredale.

Dr. McCauliff was a pupil in the public schools of Aredale and in the Nora Springs Seminary at Nora Springs, Iowa, after which he spent four years as a student in the Iowa State University. The following year was devoted to teaching and during the succeeding two years he pursued a partial medical course in the Iowa State University, while two more years were devoted to the completion of his professional education in the Northwestern University Medical School of Chicago. He was there graduated in 1902 with the degree of M. D. He put his theoretical training to the practical test in two years' experience as interne in St. Luke's Hospital of Chicago and in 1904 he came to Webster City, where he entered upon and has since continued in the practice of medicine. He has been a member of the United States pension examining board since 1907, and he belongs to the Hamilton County Medical Society, the Iowa State Medical Society, the American Medical Association, the Cedar Valley Austin Flint Medical Society and the Iowa Clinical Surgical Society.

In strictly fraternal lines Dr. McCauliff is connected with Acacia Lodge, No. 176, A. F. & A. M.; Hope Chapter, No. 88, R. A. M.; Triune Commandery, No. 41, K. T.; Sharon Chapter, No. 148, O. E. S.; Webster City Lodge, No. 342, I. O. O. F.; Webster City Lodge, No. 302, B. P. O. E.; Brotherhood of American Yeomen, No. 517; and Webster City Camp, No. 416, M. W. A. He also belongs to the Commercial League of Webster City and to the Nu Sigma Nu fraternity of Northwestern University.

In June, 1907, at Milford, Iowa, Dr. McCauliff was united in marriage to Miss Edna L. Lucas, a daughter of Mrs. C. M. Coldren of that place. Her stepfather, two uncles and her grandfather were all physicians. Dr. and Mrs. McCauliff have a very wide and favorable acquaintance in Webster City and this part of the state. His social prominence is indicated in the fact that he is a director of the Country Club and his interest in the public welfare finds tangible expression in his work as a member of the school board, on which he has served since 1909. He takes a deep and helpful interest in everything pertaining to public progress and his labors have been a vital and forceful element in the upbuilding and development of Webster City. In his profession he holds to the highest standards and his labors are bringing to him gratifying success.

WILLIAM J. STREVELER.

Among the recent acquisitions to the commercial fraternity of Blairsburg appears the name of William J. Streveler, who since January first, of this year, has been here engaged in the implement business. He represents one of Hamilton county's pioneer families and was born in Liberty township on the 10th of July, 1879. His father, John H. Streveler, was born in Luxemburg, Germany, on the 1st of July, 1847. In his early manhood he emigrated to the United States, locating in this county in 1869. Here he was subsequently married to Miss Margaret Behrens, whose birth occurred in Washington county, Wisconsin, on the 16th of August, 1857. She passed the first thirteen years of her life in her native state, coming from there to Hamilton county in 1870. Mr. Streveler was for many years actively and success-

fully identified with the farming interests of Liberty township, but in 1905 he withdrew from agricultural pursuits and purchased the implement business now owned by his son, of which he held possession for a year. He and the mother have removed to Waterloo, this state, and expect to pass the remainder of their lives in the pleasant home they own at that place. They are the parents of six children: Mrs. Rosa Chaplinski, of Williams; William J., our subject; Mrs. H. A. Dodge, of Iowa Falls; Tice S., of Alden; John, who is a resident of Waterloo; and Clara, who is living at home. The three eldest were born in Liberty township and the three last named in Blairsburg township, all being reared in this county.

Hamilton county has always been the home of William J. Streveler, who obtained his early education in the country schools, supplementing the course there pursued by three month's study in Highland Park College, Des Moines. In common with the majority of lads who are reared on a farm, his youthful energies were early directed along agricultural lines. He remained at home and assisted his father until qualified to begin his independent career and then engaged in farming on his own account. As he is a young man of diligent methods and practical ideas, which he intelligently executed, he prospered in his undertakings, and became recognized as one of the foremost agriculturists of his community. He continued to engage in diversified farming and stock-raising until the 1st of January, 1912, when he purchased the business he is now conducting in Blairsburg. He carries a full line of farming implements, and he also sells wagons, buggies and automobiles. Mr. Streveler is well adapted to his present business, his years of practical experience as a farmer well qualifying him to judge of the merits of the various implements and machines essential to the agriculturist. As he has a wide acquaintance in the county and is known to be a man of high principles and reliable methods, he is building up a good trade and has every reason to feel gratified with the patronage he is enjoying.

Blairsburg was the scene of Mr. Streveler's marriage on the 28th of June, 1905, to Miss Hazel Segar, a daughter of Emmert and Belle (Black) Segar and a descendant of well known pioneer families in both lines. Mrs. Streveler was born in Cass township, this county, and began her education in the rural schools, completing her course of study in the Blairsburg high school. Two

daughters have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Streveler: Leona, whose natal day was the 4th of September, 1906; and Olga, whose birth occurred on the 6th of August, 1907.

The fraternal connections of Mr. Streveler are confined to his membership in Blairsburg Camp, No. 7848, M. W. A., and both he and Mrs. Streveler belong to Camp No. 2892 of the Royal Neighbors. He votes the republican ticket and served for six years as school director in Blairsburg township, while for two he discharged the duties of clerk. He retains the title to his farm of eighty acres in Blairsburg township, in addition to which he owns a well furnished, comfortable residence in town and a quarter section of land in Canada. Mr. Streveler is a worker, whose efforts while promoting his individual interests advance those of the community at large, in the progress and development of which he actively cooperates.

AUGUST F. MUELLER.

A little boy fourteen years old, journeying from northern Wisconsin to Aberdeen, South Dakota, rich in the possession of four dollars in money and a comfortable fortune in hope and ambition, finally completed his travels at the home of an uncle and was taught the hardware, tinning and plumbing trades. Today August F. Mueller is a leading hardware merchant and plumber of Webster City, Iowa, and his friends are numbered among the representative citizens of that community. He has attained distinct success in the interval between his start in business and the present time, and his prosperity is entirely the result of his untiring efforts along worthy and useful lines.

Mr. Mueller is of German ancestry. His birth occurred in Brown county, Wisconsin, August 11, 1869. His parents, Henry and Sophia (Wachtmann) Mueller, were born and married in Germany and came to the United States about 1860. They settled almost immediately in Wisconsin where the father became a representative and progressive farmer and carried on his activities in this line until his death in 1875. His wife survived him for four years and passed away in 1879.

August F. Mueller was one of a family of six children. He was only six years old when his father died and had reached the age of ten at the time of his mother's death. He received an irregular edu-



AUGUST F. MUELLER

cation by attending the winter sessions of the Wisconsin public schools, but in 1879, when his mother died, he was obliged to definitely abandon any hope of further study. He stayed upon his father's farm with his brother and sisters until 1883, when the property was sold, and August Mueller, then fourteen years of age, was given four dollars and sent upon his way to Aberdeen, South Dakota, to an uncle and cousin who were residents of that city. He finally reached his destination and for six years remained in Aberdeen. In 1889 he went to Columbia, South Dakota, and was successful as a hardware merchant and plumber in that city for two years. He was actuated by ambition and energy of a rare order and by a knowledge that any success which he might gain could come only through his own untiring efforts. His removals at various periods in his life were made judiciously and with a view to his commercial advancement. He spent one year in Sioux Falls after his residence in Columbia, and on December 15, 1891, arrived in Webster City, where he was employed by Charles Crary in his hardware and plumbing business for about three years. Mr. Mueller brought his German thrift and economy to bear in his industrial activities. He saved all the money he made beyond his expenses and in April, 1895, was able to buy the business of his employer. In partnership with J. B. Huff he reorganized the concern and commenced business under the firm name of Huff & Mueller. This association continued until January 28, 1903, and was productive of a gratifying degree of success for both partners. In 1903 Mr. Mueller purchased the interest of Mr. Huff and has since that time been operating the business independently. He deals in all kinds of general hardware and his heating and plumbing department is one of the important sources of his prosperity. He brings to his activities and open and energetic mind, honorable commercial methods and a broad intelligence, which are the basis of his success. He adds to this a personal experience in the mechanical details of his business and an expert knowledge which is the result of his long connection with one line of work.

On February 12, 1896, Mr. Mueller was united in marriage to Miss Paulina Horn, a daughter of William Horn, who follows the occupation of tailoring in Webster City. They have one daughter, Clarine Naomi, born June 27, 1897.

Mr. Mueller gives his political allegiance to the republican party but is not personally interested in public affairs. He is a director of the Northwestern Felt Shoe Manufacturing Company, but this is the only commercial association he has beyond his hardware and plumbing

business. He is a prominent Mason, holding membership in the Acacia Lodge, No. 176, F. & A. M.; in Hope Chapter, No. 88, R. A. M.; in Triune Commandery, No. 41, K. T.; and in Za-Ga-Zig Temple of the Mystic Shrine. He is also prominent in Lodge No. 302, B. P. O. E., and his fraternal relations form an important item in his life. He belongs to the Congregational church of Webster City and he maintains his residence at 901 Division street. Mr. Mueller is, beyond all question, a successful man. Besides being a credit to his energy and enterprise his personal success may serve as an inspiration and help to others who come after and who are struggling against adverse and hampering obstacles.

PARKER MORSE BANKS.

Among the capable officials of Iowa is numbered Parker Morse Banks, who for thirteen consecutive years has filled the position of city clerk at Webster City, his reelection to the office standing as incontrovertible proof of his ability, fidelity and the confidence reposed in him by his fellow townsmen. He was born in Bath, Maine, January 9, 1841, the son of Charles and Alethea (Spinney) Banks. The parents resided for many years in the Pine Tree state and at one time the father went on a three years' whaling voyage from New Bedford, Massachusetts, to the Pacific but returned and became connected with industrial activities. He was a millwright by trade and had charge of the construction of the celebrated Winnegance mills at Winnegance, Maine. In 1861 he removed westward to Illinois with his family and in 1866 took up his abode in Franklin county, Iowa, where he remained until 1869, when he came to Wright county, Iowa. Here he turned his attention to farming, which occupation he followed until advanced age caused him to put aside the active work of the fields. He passed away in 1898, at the age of ninety years, having long survived his wife, who died in 1870, at the age of sixty-five years.

P. M. Banks was a pupil in the common schools of Maine and started in the business world as clerk in a country store in Winnegance, being thus employed until 1861, when he accompanied his parents to Illinois. At Cherry Valley, that state, he enlisted for service in the Civil war, marching to the defense of the stars and stripes as a member of the One Hundred and Fifth Illinois Infantry, which

was a part of the First Brigade, Third Division, Twentieth Army Corps, under command of General, afterward President, Benjamin Harrison. He participated in all of the battles near Atlanta and went with Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea. He was wounded in the engagement of Lost Mountain, June 16, 1864, but returned to his regiment and served until the end of the war. He never faltered in the performance of any duty, whether called to the firing line or stationed on the lonely picket line, being ever valorous and loyal.

When the country no longer needed his military aid Mr. Banks returned to Cherry Valley, Illinois, and was made assistant agent at that place for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad. There he remained until 1866, when he removed to Ackley, Iowa, where for a year he was in the employ of the firm of Burns & Rath, lumber dealers. He then purchased the interest of the senior partner and the firm became Rath & Banks. This connection was continued until 1870, when Mr. Banks disposed of his interest in the lumberyard and accepted a clerical position in the private bank of Werst & Cameron. A year later, in 1871, he came to Webster City and engaged in the clothing business with Gerson Levi under the firm style of Levi & Banks. When a year had passed he was appointed assistant postmaster under J. D. Hunter, serving in that capacity from 1872 until 1876, when he accepted a situation with the Hamilton County State Bank, with which he was connected for three years. On account of his health he turned his attention to farming, renting a tract of land at Woolstock, where he continued for two years. On returning to Webster City he became assistant cashier in the First National Bank, occupying that position for thirteen years, or from 1881 until 1894. During the succeeding five years he was out of business but in 1899 was elected city clerk and has continued in that office to the present time, or for more than thirteen years, recently resigning, his resignation to take effect May 1, 1913. The record which he has made in this connection is unassailable. He is systematic and methodical in all that he does and sound judgment and **loyalty are also features of his work in the office which he has so long filled.**

In June, 1871, Mr. Banks was married in Belvidere, to Miss Belinda B. Lane, a daughter of Samuel Lane, of Belvidere, who was a farmer and removed from Maine to Illinois during the period of its pioneer development, there spending his remaining days. The death of Mrs. Banks occurred in 1883. The children of that marriage were Ernie and Vernie, the first twins born in Webster City, and both

died in infancy. Bertie, born in 1872, married Lillian Bell and resides in Clarion, where he is clerk of the court of Wright county. They have three daughters and two sons.

Mr. Banks makes his home at No. 703 Des Moines avenue. He is well known in various public connections, being an exemplary member of Acacia Lodge, No. 176, A. F. & A. M.; Hope Chapter, No. 88, R. A. M.; and Triune Commandery, No. 41, K. T., of which he is a past eminent commander, having served for two terms. He is also a past commander of Winfield Scott Post, No. 66, G. A. R., and thus maintains close relations with his old army comrades. He attends the Congregational church and is a citizen whose loyal support can always be counted upon to further any movement for the material, intellectual, social, political or moral welfare of the community. His record in every relation of life, as a soldier, as a business man and as a public officer, is most creditable.

THOMAS DELVIN RUTLEDGE.

Thomas Delvin Rutledge, who has for three years been manager of the Blairsburg Hardware Company, is highly regarded in local business circles, where he has shown himself to be a man of commendable methods and honest purpose. He was born in McLean county, Illinois, on the 28th of April, 1871, and is a son of Robert Blackburne and Matilda (Johnson) Rutledge. The father was born in McLean county, Illinois, in 1844, while the mother is a native of Le Roy, that state, her birth having occurred in 1851. The father, who is a farmer, removed with his family from McLean to Ford county, Illinois, where he continued his agricultural pursuits for several years. In 1890, he came to Hamilton county, locating on a farm just south of Williams in Rose Grove township. He subsequently purchased a place in the vicinity of Kamrar, but several years later he disposed of that and removed to Kamrar. His had always been too active and enterprising a life, however, for him to retire while his physical strength enabled him to continue working, so he later rented a farm in the vicinity of Kamrar in the cultivation of which he is still engaged. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Rutledge numbered eight, as follows: Mrs. Elva Rowan, who resides a mile and a half north of Highview, this county; Thomas Delvin, our subject;

Robert Blackburne, Jr., who is residing in East St. Louis, Illinois; Guy, who is residing in Kamrar; Beulah, who died while the family were residing in McLean county, Illinois; Charles C., who is a resident of St. Louis, Missouri; Roy Ford, who was born in Ford county, Illinois, and is living at home; and Blanche, a native of Hamilton county, who is also living at home. The elder children were all born in McLean county.

Reared on a farm, the education of Thomas Delvin Rutledge was begun in the district schools of his native state and continued in the high schools of Le Roy and Gibson City, Illinois. Having decided that he preferred a commercial to an agricultural career, he left home soon after leaving school and entered the employ of E. Crabb, a general merchant of Gibson City, for whom he drove a delivery wagon. While there employed he had the misfortune to be stricken with blood-poisoning and for seven years thereafter was compelled to use crutches. This affliction compelled him to resign his position and for two years he remained at home, giving such assistance as he was able about the farm. He then took a position in the drug store of Schultz Brothers at Williams, and subsequently was employed for two years in the restaurant of William Gerber. At the expiration of that time he accepted a position in the general mercantile establishment of Mrs. John Birdsall of Williams, remaining there for two and a half years. He was subsequently employed in the hardware store of J. P. Talcott, also at Williams, following which he embarked in the restaurant business. After successfully conducting this enterprise for three years he disposed of it and accepted a clerkship in the hardware store of F. M. Bibler at Kamrar. The next year he again entered the employ of J. P. Talcott, with whom he remained until he accepted his present position as manager of the Blairsburg Hardware Company on the 10th of August, 1909. This is one of the largest establishments of the kind in the county, and in addition to a large stock of shelf and heavy hardware they carry a full line of farming implements, gasoline engines, automobiles and other vehicles. The policy of the house is well known and as they enjoy the confidence of the people are accorded a large patronage, not only in Blairsburg but from the surrounding country and the neighboring villages.

At Webster City, on the 12th of June, 1903, Mr. Rutledge was united in marriage to Miss Mabel Hanlen, a native of Dysart, Iowa, and a daughter of William Hanlen, a well known resident

of Williams, who is mentioned at greater length elsewhere in this work. There have been born of this marriage five children: William Donald and Lois Elva, who were born in Kamrar; Charles Marion and Doris Maude, who are natives of Williams; and a baby daughter, whose birth recently occurred in Blairsburg. Mr. Rutledge owns his residence, which is comfortably furnished and is providing his children with as good advantages as the town affords.

The family attend the Congregational church, of which Mr. Rutledge is a member, and fraternally he is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Yeomen of Williams. Politically he indorses the principles of the republican party and is now representing his ward in the town council and served in a like capacity while residing in Kamrar. Despite his physical affliction and his many years of suffering, Mr. Rutledge has won a place for himself in local business circles, where he is highly regarded and is numbered among the town's desirable citizens.

CLAUDE H. RICHESON.

Claude H. Richeson, secretary, treasurer and general manager of the Webster City Mercantile Company, has been identified with commercial interests in Hamilton county since August, 1900, and has been in his present connection since 1905. A spirit of enterprise and laudable ambition prompts him to put forth earnest and persistent effort and the intelligent direction of his labors is bringing to him very gratifying success. A native of Iowa, Mr. Richeson was born in Marshall county, February 7, 1877, his parents being Martin and Elizabeth (Hughes) Richeson. The father removed from Illinois to Marshall county in 1855 and there followed the occupation of farming, becoming a well known breeder of shorthorn cattle and in that way contributing in substantial measure to the improvement of the stock-raising interests of the district.

At the usual age C. H. Richeson began his education in the district schools and after attending the high school entered the Iowa College at Grinnell and later was a student in the Capital City Commercial College at Des Moines. In 1895, then eighteen years of age, he entered upon the active work of life by teaching

school in Marshall county, following the profession from 1895 until 1898. He then opened a general store at State Center and continued the business for two years or until August, 1900, when he came to Webster City and organized the firm of Hughes & Richeson, opening a notion store known as the Kash Savings Store. He was active in its conduct until August, 1905, when he assisted in the organization of the Webster City Mercantile Company, becoming secretary, treasurer and general manager. This is a well appointed establishment, carrying a large and carefully selected line of goods, the attractive arrangement of which together with the reasonable prices and honorable business policy of the house secure for the company a liberal patronage.

On the 7th of July, 1903, Mr. Richeson was united in marriage to Miss Laura B. Woolston, her father being A. P. Woolston, a retired farmer and merchant of Webster City. Our subject and his wife now have three children, namely: Marion, whose birth occurred in 1904; and Frances and Dorothy, who were born in the years 1907 and 1911 respectively. The family occupy a pleasant home at No. 745 Walnut street and are prominent in the social circles of the city.

Mr. Richeson belongs to Elmo Lodge, No. 62, I. O. O. F.; Webster City Lodge, No. 302, B. P. O. E.; and Webster City Camp, No. 416, M. W. A. To their teachings he is loyal, recognizing the fact that in their tenets are found high standards of manhood. Since 1910 he has been president of the Webster City Commercial League and in this connection is putting forth earnest and effective effort to promote the welfare of the business interests at large. At the same time he is carefully and systematically promoting his individual affairs and is an alert, energetic, progressive business man, numbered among the valued citizens of his community.

CARL H. HAEGER.

Carl H. Haeger, secretary of the Journal Publishing Company and well known in Webster City, the place of his nativity, was born September 29, 1884. His parents were W. F. and Henrietta (Bierhaus) Haeger. The father came from Michigan to Boone, Iowa, and there married Henrietta Bierhaus, a native of the latter state. They

remained at Boone until 1880, when they removed to Webster City. The father was a pioneer cigar manufacturer here and continued in the business to the time of his death which occurred in 1904. His widow still survives and is widely and favorably known in Webster City.

In the public schools of his native town Carl H. Haeger pursued his education and when a youth of fifteen years began learning the printer's trade in the office of the Freeman Tribune. He was connected with that paper until he joined George C. Tucker in the purchase of the Journal and in the organization of the Journal Publishing Company, of which he became the secretary and treasurer. The Journal ranks with the leading newspapers in this section of the state, holding at all times to high standards.

Mr. Haeger is a member of the Knights of the Maccabees, his local connection being with Webster City Tent, No. 79. He is also a member of the Webster City Commercial League. He is yet a young man but has carefully established himself in business and the course which he has followed has gained him a creditable position in social as well as in commercial circles.

E. I. JOHNSON.

E. I. Johnson, president and founder of the State Bank of Williams, has been identified with the business interests of Hamilton county for twenty-nine years. He was born in Kenosha county, Wisconsin, on the 18th of November, 1859, and is a son of Isaac L. and Delia (Benedict) Johnson. The parents were natives of the state of New York, the father's birth having occurred in 1812, and that of the mother in 1823. On leaving the Empire state they removed to Wisconsin, locating in Kenosha county, which remained their place of residence for many years. There the mother passed away in 1866. She was survived by the father, whose death occurred in 1879. They had another son, Herbert N., who was born on the 21st of December, 1856, and is now a resident of Siloam Springs, Arkansas.

E. I. Johnson was about seven years old when his mother died and he then went to live with a widowed aunt at Appleton, Wisconsin, where he remained for two years. At the end of that time he returned to Kenosha county, where he lived with a farmer for three years, or until his father was married again, after which he spent the



E. I. JOHNSON

winters at home attending the country schools, while during the summer months he worked for various farmers until he attained the age of twenty years. In 1881 he attended a commercial college at Madison, Wisconsin, and from the fall of 1882 until May, 1883, worked in a hardware store at Racine, that state. It was in the latter year that he came to Williams, Iowa, where he first engaged in the hardware business, but later became interested in merchandising and banking. The latter business developed in a very satisfactory manner, and in 1888 he established the Exchange Bank. In 1890 this institution was reorganized to conform to the state laws, with a capital stock of twenty-five thousand dollars, the name being changed to the State Bank of Williams. The capital has since been increased to thirty-five thousand dollars, while the surplus and undivided profits now amount to ten thousand dollars. A general banking and foreign exchange business is carried on and the bank enjoys the confidence of the entire community as is substantially evidenced by the amount of its deposits, which aggregate practically three hundred thousand dollars. This was the first bank in Hamilton county to be organized under the state laws and is recognized as one of the conservative and substantial financial institutions in this part of Iowa. This fact must largely be attributed to the honorable, straightforward manner in which Mr. Johnson conducts his transactions, his business methods being such as to commend him to the confidence of those with whom he has dealings. The company owns the building they occupy, which is a modern structure and centrally located. In addition to his other interests Mr. Johnson owns his residence and two hundred and thirty-three acres of highly improved land in Williams township.

On the 17th of September, 1884, Mr. Johnson was united in marriage to Miss Mary E. Tomlinson, who was born in Grant county, Wisconsin, August 27, 1858, and is the eldest of the seven children born to John and Leah (Armstrong) Tomlinson. Her parents were natives of England, but the early years of their domestic life were passed in Grant county, Wisconsin, whence they removed to Hardin county, Iowa. The father is now residing in Arkansas, but the mother passed away in Williams in 1903. The children of the Tomlinson family are as follows: Mrs. Johnson; William A.; John E.; Elizabeth, now Mrs. Fred Bushman; Frank W.; Arthur; and Robert. The three last named were born in Hardin county, Iowa, but the four eldest are natives of Grant county, Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are the parents of four children. Raymond T., who was born July 9, 1885, and after completing the course of the public schools of

Williams, spent two years at Grinnell College, and then began his business career in the State Bank of Williams, of which he is now cashier. Earl E., born on the 5th of January, 1887, completed his education at the Iowa State Agricultural College at Ames, of which institution he was a student for three years. Leah M., born January 5, 1889, attended the Denver high school and Grinnell College for one year each and the Iowa State Teachers College at Cedar Falls for two years, and has taught the primary department of the Williams public schools for two years. Ethel A., born December 10, 1893, was graduated from the Williams high school in 1910 and is now a sophomore at Grinnell College.

Mrs. Johnson and three of the children belong to the Presbyterian church. Fraternally Mr. Johnson was formerly affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, was local representative to the Grand Lodge, and for a time he was also identified with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks. He supports the republican party and has been chairman of the county central committee. He has always taken an active and helpful interest in all municipal affairs and has served with efficiency as mayor and councilman and also as a member of the school board. Mr. Johnson is numbered among the progressive, public-spirited men of Williams, in the advancement and development of which town he cooperates by assisting in promoting every movement that he feels will prove beneficial to the welfare of the community.

IRVIN J. SAYRS.

Irvin J. Sayrs has been a resident of Webster City for only five years but, although one of the more recent arrivals here, he has succeeded in establishing himself in a creditable position as a member of the bar and also as the secretary of the Hamilton County Abstract Company. He was born in the neighboring state of Illinois, his birth having occurred in Schuyler county, August 10, 1876. His parents were Francis M. and Hulda C. (Derry) Sayrs. His grandfather, Jonathan Sayrs, was a resident of Harrison county, Ohio, remaining there until after his marriage and the birth of two of his children. At an early day, however, he became a resident of Illinois, being one of the first settlers of Fulton county, where another child was added to the family circle — Francis M. Sayrs, who remained a lifelong resident of Fulton

and Schuyler counties. At the time of the Civil war he entered his country's service, becoming a member of the Thirty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry in response for troops to serve for ninety days. Later he reenlisted in the Eighty-fourth Illinois and continued with that regiment until the close of the war. In 1855 the Derry family, to which Mrs. F. M. Sayrs belonged, removed from Mason county, Illinois, to Kansas, settling on a homestead about forty miles south of Leavenworth. It was their intention to remain in that state, but on account of the border warfare that there prevailed and because of their strong advocacy of republican principles, they left that locality at the outbreak of hostilities between the north and the south, selling their home-stead, comprising one hundred and sixty acres of prairie land and forty acres of timber land, for three hundred dollars. They then returned to Illinois by way of Iowa, being afraid to go through Missouri on account of the war and conditions thereby imposed. It was immediately after the war that Francis M. Sayrs and Hulda C. Derry were married.

The family home was maintained in Schuyler county, and Irvin J. Sayrs was a pupil in the public schools there and in the Rushville Normal College at Rushville, Illinois. He pursued his law course in Highland Park College at Des Moines and was graduated in 1901 with the degree of LL. B. After being admitted to the bar by the supreme court of Iowa he began practice in 1903 in Jewell, Hamilton county, and on the 1st of March, 1907, sought the broader field of labor offered by the county seat, removing to Webster City, where he has since continued in the practice of his chosen profession. His professional labors have been entirely satisfactory to his clients, who have found him pains-taking and careful in the preparation of his cases and clear and logical in their presentation. He has been accorded a large practice and has also been the secretary of the Hamilton County Abstract Company since its organization.

At New London, Iowa, Mr. Sayrs was united in marriage to Miss Isabel M. Parrott, her father being J. E. Parrott, of Henry county, Iowa, who is now living at Lamar, Colorado. Polly Parrott, the grandmother of Mrs. Sayrs, came to Burlington, Iowa, when there were only four huts at that place. Our subject and his wife have one daughter, Bonita Maurine Sayrs, whose birth occurred on the 6th of July, 1905. Mr. Sayrs and his little family

have a pleasant home at No. 521 Walnut street and during the period of their residence here they have gained many friends.

Mr. Sayrs belongs to Acacia Lodge, No. 176, F. & A. M.; Hope Chapter, No. 88, R. A. M.; and Webster City Camp, No. 416, M. W. A. He also holds membership in the Congregational church and these associations indicate much of the nature of his interests and the rules that govern his conduct. Entering a profession where advancement depends entirely upon individual merit and not upon influence or any favorable external circumstances, he is working his way steadily upward and is gaining that success which is the merited reward of capability and persistency of purpose.

ELMER E. CHEEVER.

Elmer E. Cheever, who owns and operates a farm of eighty-five acres on section 4, Independence township, is a native of Hamilton county, his birth having occurred in Webster City on the 5th of October, 1870. He is a son of William M. and Cynthia A. (Avery) Cheever, natives of the state of New York, where they were also married. They came to Iowa in 1869, locating in Hamilton county, and for three years thereafter the father farmed as a renter, but at the expiration of that time he purchased forty acres of land on section 4, Independence township, that is now the property of his son, Elmer E. Mr. and Mrs. Cheever had but two children, the elder of whom, George A., is married and engages in farming in the vicinity of Carr, Colorado. The father passed away on the 23d of June, 1909, at the age of seventy-four years, and was buried in Graceland cemetery at Webster City. The mother is still living at the age of seventy and is now visiting her son in Colorado. William M. Cheever went to the front as a private in Company E, One Hundred and Tenth Volunteer Infantry during the Civil war and served until the close of hostilities. The exposure and hardships incident to camp life undermined his health and he was sick for nearly a year, the greater part of that time being spent in a hospital in the south. He saw considerable active service, and was taken prisoner in battle and sent to Andersonville, but was soon released.

The entire life of Elmer E. Cheever has been passed in the vicinity of his present home. He was reared on a farm and early trained to the duties and responsibilities of an agriculturist, which vocation he has always followed. He owns one of the well improved and highly cultivated farms of the county and is meeting with success in its operation. His land is tiled and fenced, and all of it is hog tight, and equipped with everything essential to modern agriculture. Mr. Cheever raises a high grade of cattle and horses and makes a specialty of breeding and raising thoroughbred Duroc Jersey hogs.

In 1908, Mr. Cheever was married to Miss Lora Stevens, a native of Iowa, and a daughter of John and Belle (Elwick) Stevens. The father was born in the state of New York fifty-eight years ago, and the mother, who is forty-eight years of age, is a native of Illinois. They were married in Iowa and subsequently located in the vicinity of Webster City, where Mr. Stevens engages in general farming and gardening. Their family numbers four, Mrs. Cheever, who was born on November 11, 1883, being the eldest.

Fraternally Mr. Cheever is a member of the Modern Brotherhood of America and gives his political support to the republican party. He was township trustee for five years and served as school director for twelve and is now secretary of the school board. The religious faith of Mr. and Mrs. Cheever is manifested through their connection with the Congregational church of Webster City, in the work of which they take an active interest.

WESLEY MARTIN.

Wesley Martin is a veteran of the Civil war and his military experience also included service with the regular army. In this connection his record is commendable but not more so than his record as a member of the bar. He entered upon the practice of law in Webster City in 1876, and has since been engaged in the work of the profession, his ability, his legal learning and his devotion to his clients' interests winning him high rank. He was born in Navarre, Ohio, December 19, 1848, his parents being Samuel and Mary Martin, who died when he was quite young, so that he was reared by his grandparents. Wesley Martin was educated in the

public schools of New Philadelphia, Ohio, but was not yet sixteen years of age when on the 2d of May, 1864, he enlisted for service in the Civil war as a member of Company C, One Hundred and Sixty-first Ohio Infantry. He was with that regiment for one hundred and twenty-six days and in November of the same year he enlisted in the Second New York Heavy Artillery, with which he served until the close of hostilities between the north and the south. Mr. Martin joined General Grant's army on the 27th of November, 1864, in front of Petersburg, and was in the closing battles of the war under that great commander until the surrender of Lee at Appomattox. Among Mr. Martin's valued papers is the "President's Thanks and Certificate of Honorable Service," signed by Abraham Lincoln and Edwin M. Stanton. After the war he joined the regular army, with which he was on duty in the south and west for three years. His military record is indeed a creditable one and few men of his years can claim the right to be numbered with the Civil war veterans. While but a boy in his teens at the time of his enlistment, he displayed bravery and loyalty equal to that of many a man of twice his years.

In 1873 Mr. Martin took up the study of law in the office and under the direction of Colonel A. R. Mock of Cambridge, Illinois, and was admitted to the bar by the supreme court at Springfield, Illinois, on the 4th of January, 1876. On the 13th of May following he arrived in Webster City and began the practice of law, in which he has since continued. His progress in the profession has been continuous. Experience and further study have advanced his ability and he has proven his strength in connection with many litigated interests which have attracted widespread attention. Aside from his professional connections he is a director of the First National Bank and a stockholder in the Hamilton County State Bank.

Mr. Martin has always given his political allegiance to the republican party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise. In 1881 he was elected mayor. During his term he organized the city as a city of the second class and was the first mayor under the new organization. His administration brought about various needed reforms and improvements and at the same time was economically conducted, there being no useless expenditure of public funds. He brought to the discharge of his duties in connection with the business of the city, businesslike principles and habits and the work of the office was carefully systematized.

On the 24th of December, 1874, Mr. Martin was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Wonders, a daughter of William Wonders, of Webster county, Iowa, who was a farmer by occupation and also engaged in coal mining in that county. Mr. and Mrs. Martin reside at No. 402 First street. They are members of the First Baptist church and Mr. Martin belongs also to Acacia Lodge, No. 176, F. & A. M., of Webster City; Winfield Scott Post, No. 66, G. A. R.; the Commercial Law League of America and the American Bar Association. He is a man of genial, social nature, possessing attractive qualities that have won him personal popularity, while his developing powers as a lawyer have long maintained him in a creditable position as a representative of the Webster City bar.

EARL FRANCIS McCOMB.

Earl Francis McComb, who holds a responsible position with the Blairsburg Hardware Company, is descended from one of the pioneer families of Hamilton county of which he is a native, his birth having occurred in Independence township on the 25th of November, 1883. He is a son of Samuel and Kate (Gerber) McComb, the father a native of Belfast, Ireland, and the mother of Germany, the maternal grandparents being among the very first settlers of Hamilton county. Samuel McComb was for many years actively engaged in farming in this county and passed away on his homestead in Independence township. The mother subsequently removed to Webster City with her family and there she still resides. Our subject is the second in order of birth and the only son in a family of three. The elder daughter, Mrs. Rachel Kennedy, was born on Christmas day, 1879, and is now residing on the old home farm in Independence township, while the youngest member of the family, Hazel, who was born on March 12, 1890, is living in Webster City with the mother. They are both natives of Independence township. The father had one son by a previous marriage, W. F. McComb, of Waterloo, Iowa.

The education of Earl Francis McComb was begun in the district schools and continued in the graded and high schools of Webster City. Upon terminating his student days he obtained a certificate and for four years thereafter engaged in teaching in the country schools. At the expiration of that time he turned his attention to commercial activities and engaged in the hardware and implement

business at Randall, where he was located for eight years. In February, 1911, he entered upon the duties of his present position with the Blairsburg Hardware Company, in which capacity he is giving most excellent service.

At Randall, this state, in 1905, Mr. McComb was married to Miss Mabel Seymour, whose birth there occurred on the 28th of October, 1888. She is a daughter of S. S. and Elizabeth (Jacobson) Seymour, whose family numbered four: Annie, who is residing at Roulette, North Dakota; Mrs. Stella Severs of Webster City; Mrs. McComb; and Lulu, who is living with her mother in Randall. The father is deceased, having passed away at Phoenix, Arizona. To Mr. and Mrs. McComb have been born a daughter and a son: Leona, who was born in Webster City, on March 20, 1907; and Earl Seymour, whose birth occurred in Randall, October 1, 1909.

Mr. McComb is a member of Blairsburg Camp, No. 7848, Modern Woodmen of America, of which he is also clerk, and Mrs. McComb is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Randall. His political allegiance is given to the republican party, and although he is interested in the progress and development of the community he has never figured in public affairs, giving his entire time and attention to his business interests.

LLOYD G. WALTERICK.

Lloyd G. Walterick, proprietor of the "Williams Wasp," which paper he has been editing for the past three years, is highly regarded in local business circles, being recognized as one of the town's most capable and promising young men. He was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, on the 3d of December, 1890, and is a son of George B. and Emma C. (Grove) Walterick, also natives of Franklin county, the father's birth having occurred on April 26, 1867. In 1900 the parents removed to Hamilton county, settling in Webster City, whence they later came to Williams. Here the father, who is a carpenter by trade, is successfully engaged in the business of contracting and building. Mr. and Mrs. Walterick have three sons, of whom our subject is the eldest. Jay W., who was born on the 21st of September, 1892, is associated with his brother in the publication of the "Williams Wasp," and Paul S., the youngest member of the family, his natal day having been October 16, 1894, is attending the Iowa State Busi-



LLOYD G. WALTERICK

ness College at Des Moines. The two younger sons were also born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania.

Lloyd G. Walterick was only a child of ten years when brought to Hamilton county by his parents. He received most of his education in the public schools of Webster City, and upon the completion of the eighth grade he decided upon a journalistic career as his life work in 1905, and entered the service of the Hahne Printing Company of Webster City in the capacity of apprentice. He is ambitious and enterprising, and, while there, not only fitted himself for the position of a compositor, but became thoroughly familiar with job printing work generally. On the 1st of August, 1909, he came to Williams and took possession of the paper he is now editing. He is a wide-awake, thoughtful and progressive young man and his paper is in every way a credit to him and the community. In matters of citizenship he is public-spirited and through the columns of his journal indorses every movement that he feels will promote the interests of the municipality. He is absolutely fearless in his denunciation of wrong, but is equally ready to commend good, fully appreciating that the press is the great medium of reform and a dominant factor in the molding of public opinion. That he is editing a clean, wholesome sheet and in the voicing of his views expresses the opinions of the community generally is substantially evidenced by his circulation list, which carries fourteen hundred names. The paper has been issued under the name of the "Williams Wasp" since 1906, and is popular in the community, particularly among the business people, who have found it to be a good advertising medium. Mr. Walterick has a better plant than is to be found in the average printing office of a town of this size, and is particularly well equipped to do all kinds of job work, of which he makes a specialty.

The Walterick family are English Lutherans in religious faith, but as this denomination is not represented in Williams, they all affiliate with the Presbyterian church. Lloyd G. Walterick is identified with the Masonic lodge, A. F. & A. M., the Modern Woodmen of America and the Brotherhood of American Yoemen, and in addition to the protection thus afforded he also carries insurance in the Equitable of New York, the Aetna of New York, and the American & Bankers' Life of Des Moines. He gives his political allegiance to the republican party and the columns of his paper strongly indorse the men and measures of the progressive faction of this body. He is meeting with success in the development of his business and has but recently purchased a residence property in Williams, which he anticipi-

pates occupying very shortly. He is a most estimable young man, whose laudable ambition, upright standards and high principles of conduct commend him to the confidence of all with whom he has transactions and have been the means of his winning and retaining the regard of a large circle of friends, who prophesy for him a very promising future.

ELSTON FULLERTON KING.

Elston Fullerton King, who on the 29th of April, 1909, was elected to the vice presidency of the First National Bank, has been continuously connected with financial interests in Webster City since the fall of 1893. He is a well known man of reliability and enterprise and his efforts have contributed largely to the success of the institution with which he is connected. He was born in Springfield, in the province of Ontario, January 30, 1873, his parents being William Dance and Lucy (Fullerton) King. The removal of the family to Iowa during his boyhood days led him to continue his education in this state. He was graduated from Iowa College at Grinnell in 1894, with the degree of Bachelor of Philosophy and he then pursued a two years' medical course in the University of Pennsylvania. In 1898 he went to Utah where he spent five years on a cattle ranch, but in the fall of 1903 he returned to this state and has since been a resident of Webster City. Here he was given the position of clerk in the First National Bank and successive promotions have followed, making him assistant cashier, cashier and vice president. He thus has voice in the management of the bank and the policy which he advocates is in keeping with the most progressive methods of banking. He realizes the fact that the bank most worthy of patronage is that which most carefully safeguards the interests of its depositors and he has ever advocated a conservative course that is not, however, detrimental to substantial growth and advancement. Aside from his active interests at Webster City he is a director of the First National Bank of Williams, Iowa, the Farmers Savings Bank of Alden, Iowa, and the Farmers Savings Bank, of Duncombe, Iowa.

On the 1st of June, 1904, Mr. King was married to Miss Kate Miracle, a daughter of Judge Miracle, of Webster City, and they have three children: Robert Fullerton, born June 25, 1905; Donald Miracle, born January 14, 1907; and Eleanor Bell, born March 25, 1910.

The family occupy a pleasant home at No. 1317 Willson avenue and its hospitality is greatly enjoyed by their many friends.

Mr. King is prominent in fraternal and social organizations. He belongs to Sigma Chi, a national college fraternity and is a thirty-second degree Mason, holding membership in Acacia Lodge, No. 176, F. & A. M.; Hope Chapter, No. 88, R. A. M.; Triune Commandery, No. 41, K. T.; Des Moines Consistory, No. 3, S. P. R. S.; and Za-Ga-Zig Temple of the Mystic Shrine, also of Des Moines. He likewise belongs to Webster City Lodge, No. 302, B. P. O. E.; Webster City Camp No. 416, M. W. A.; and Elmo Lodge, No. 62, I. O. O. F. His name is on the membership rolls of the Webster City Country Club and of the Webster City Commercial League, and the latter indicates his interest in affairs relating to the welfare and progress of the community in which he lives. His political allegiance is given to the republican party. His life has been one of continuous activity in which has been accorded due recognition of labor and he is today numbered among the substantial citizens of his county. His interests are thoroughly identified with those of Webster City and at all times he is ready to lend his aid and cooperation to any movement calculated to benefit this section of the country or advance its wonderful development.

EMMERT SEGAR.

Emmert Segar, who is connected with the Lane-Moore Lumber Company of Blairsburg, was formerly actively engaged in agricultural pursuits in this township, and is a representative of one of those families to whose efforts Hamilton county is largely indebted for its progress and development. With the exception of two years spent in an overland trip to Oregon, his entire life has been passed in this county, his birth having occurred in Cass township on the 20th of September, 1863. His parents, Horace and Ortense (Hager) Segar, were both natives of Pennsylvania, but they came to Iowa in their youth, the maternal grandparents being among the first settlers of Cedar county. They located in Cass township during the early period of their domestic life, and there they both passed away, the father's death occurring in 1892. This section of the state was but sparsely settled when they came here, and on every side of the Segar homestead stretched vast expanses of wild prairie land, the

family living in true pioneer style. Here were reared the five sons and three daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Segar, all but the eldest of whom were born in this county. In order of birth they are as follows: Louis, who is a resident of Webster City; Mrs. Angelina Himebaugh and Mrs. Emma J. Porter, both of Webster City; Jesse, who resides a mile north of Webster City; Benjamin E., who died in Blairsburg township, February 22, 1912; Roland, who is residing at Meadow Grove, Nebraska; Emmert, our subject; and Mrs. Mabel Jewett, of Webster City.

The early years in the life of Emmert Segar were in no way unusual nor distinguished by any startling experiences. He spent his time very much in the same manner as the other youths in the community, acquiring his education in the district schools. When his people first located in the county Webster City was known as Newcastle, and he can recall the time when there were but three houses between their farm in Cass township and Blairsburg. The privations and hardships incident to pioneering tended to create a cohesive citizenship through whose united efforts the wild wastes of prairie land have been transformed into beautiful farms, the Hamilton county of today bearing little resemblance to that of fifty years ago. In all of this progress and development the Segar family have substantially assisted through their agricultural activities. Having been reared to the work of the fields, when qualified to begin his independent career, naturally Emmert Segar chose the vocation of farming, which he successfully followed for many years. Although he has for some years been making his home in Blairsburg, where he owns a very pleasant residence and fourteen lots, he still holds the title to a well improved farm of a hundred and sixty acres in this township. He has accumulated a very comfortable competence, more than sufficient to supply the needs of himself and wife, but he has always been too active and enterprising to retire, so he is now assisting in the yard of the Lane-Moore Lumber Company.

In October, 1884, Mr. Segar was united in marriage to Miss Belle Black, whose birth occurred in Jackson county, Iowa, on the 20th of April, 1863. She is a daughter of Jesse and Mary Ellen Black, who were early settlers of Hamilton county, where they both passed away and were laid to rest in the cemetery in Cass township. The father, who was a native of England, died in Webster City, while the mother, who was born in Pennsylvania, was residing in Jewell Junction at the time of her demise. Their family numbered five, as follows: Mrs. Jesse Segar, who is residing a mile north of

Webster City; Mrs. Emmert Segar; Bert, whose home is in Bemis, South Dakota; Jesse, a resident of Burt, Iowa; and Nora, who passed away at the age of thirteen years.

To Mr. and Mrs. Segar have been born four children: Mrs. Maude Hunt, who is living in Williams township; Mrs. Hazel Streveler, of Blairsburg; Guy, who is living on the home farm; and Joseph, who is still at home. The three eldest children were born in Cass township and the youngest in Blairsburg township.

His political support Mr. Segar gives to the republican party, and he served for nine years as road supervisor. He takes an active interest in local affairs and represents that type of citizen who cooperates in forwarding the welfare of the community by assisting in promoting its various public utilities and such movements as will tend to advance its moral, social or intellectual standards. The family first located in this county in 1855 and during the fifty-seven years intervening its various members have proven to be most worthy and highly desirable citizens.

JOHN SCOTT.

Among the estimable citizens and capable agriculturists of Blairsburg township must be numbered John Scott, who holds the title to a hundred and twenty acres of well improved land, which he devotes to diversified farming in connection with stock-raising. He was born in Broadhead, Wisconsin, on the 1st of December, 1867, and is of Irish and American extraction, his father, James Scott, having been a native of the Emerald isle, while the mother, whose maiden name was Catharine Welch, was born in Wisconsin. Eight children were born to this worthy couple, of whom our subject is the eldest. In order of birth the others are as follows: Edward; Mrs. Nellie Wille, who is a resident of Webster City, Iowa; Mrs. Nora McFarland, who makes her home in Los Angeles, California; George, who resides in Williams township; Charlie, who is a resident of Vernon township, Wright county; Maze, a resident of South Dakota; and Mrs. Susan Carpenter, of Lake township, Wright county. The four last named are natives of Hamilton county, while the two eldest sons were born in Wisconsin and the two eldest daughters in Wright county, Iowa. The father passed away in Vernon town-

ship, Wright county, on the 4th of March, 1893, but the mother is still living and continues to make her home in Vernon township. The family came to Iowa in 1869, locating in Wright county, and have ever since made their home in this state.

As he was a child of only two years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Iowa, John Scott has passed practically his entire life in the vicinity where he now resides. His boyhood was not unlike that of other youths who were reared in this section at that period. In the acquirement of his education he attended the district schools, and at the same time he was qualifying himself for an agricultural career by assisting his father about the work of the fields and care of the stock. He resided in Wright county until after his marriage in 1899, when he purchased the farm, where he is now living. He has been entirely dependent upon his own resources since he became old enough to earn his living and everything he possesses has been acquired through his individual efforts. He has worked early and late, earnestly and diligently applying himself to the achievement of success, and has prospered correspondingly. The appearance of his fields and condition of his stock are evidence of his capable management and intelligent supervision. His place is well kept up and provided with an equipment fully adequate to his needs, while as his circumstances have warranted he has installed about his premises various modern conveniences, which have minimized the labor connected with its operation. He has a comfortable residence, which is well furnished and provided with a piano and good books for the benefit of the children, who are being afforded better advantages than their parents received. In connection with his diversified farming, Mr. Scott is raising a high grade of stock and is meeting with good financial returns from both lines of his business.

In this county, in the year 1899, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Scott and Miss Annie Venner, who is likewise a native of Wisconsin. She is a daughter of Henry and Frederika (Lentz) Venner, natives of Germany. They came to America in early life and were married in Wisconsin, whence they subsequently removed to Iowa. Here they both passed away, the father's death occurring in Hamilton county in 1906, and that of the mother in Hardin county in 1904. Mrs. Scott is the youngest in a family of six, five of whom are living. In order of birth the others are as follows: Albert, who is residing in Williams township; Mrs. Ber-

tha Tilke, who makes her home in Vernon township, Wright county; Mrs. Emma Butler; William, who was born on March 13, 1876, and resides in Blairsburg township; and Mrs. Ida Miers, who is deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Scott have become the parents of four children, Irene, May, Margaret and James. They are all attending school in their home district and are being given every advantage in the way of self-improvement at the command of the parents.

The family attend the German Reformed church of Vernon township, Wright county. Politically Mr. Scott is a republican and he has for twelve years been a member of the school board of Blairsburg township, and is now president of that body. He is a man who takes an active interest in all movements affecting the welfare of the community, and assists in promoting the development of the various public utilities. He is highly esteemed by his fellow townsmen, who have found him to be honorable and upright in his business dealings and trustworthy and honest in the discharge of his official duties.

HENRY WILLIAM LUNDELL, D. D. S.

Dentistry may be said to be almost unique among other occupations, as it is at once a profession, a trade and a business. Such being the case, it follows that in order to attain the highest success in it one must be thoroughly conversant with the theory of the art, must be expert with the many instruments and appliances incidental to the practice of modern dentistry and must possess business qualifications adequate to dealing with the financial side of the profession. In all of these particulars Dr. Lundell is well qualified and therefore has attained prestige among the able representatives of dentistry in Webster City. It was here that he was born July 11, 1878. He comes, however, of Swedish ancestry, his parents, August and Christina Lundell, having been natives of Sweden. On coming to the new world they settled at Stratford, Hamilton county, in 1872, and the father followed the occupation of farming to the time of his death, which occurred in 1890. The mother still survives and is now living in Webster City.

Dr. Lundell was a pupil in the public schools here but was resolved to obtain a higher education and utilized every means

possible toward the attainment of that end. Going to St. Paul, Minnesota, he there worked in connection with the shoe business and later was employed as a railway mail clerk. At the same time he pursued a literary course in the University of Minnesota preparatory to taking a course in dentistry at the dental department of the Central University of Kentucky in Louisville. His studies in the latter institution were completed by his graduation in 1907, at which time the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery was conferred upon him and he received the highest honors in both theory and practice. Between his junior and senior years at the University of Kentucky he practiced his profession in Ceylon, Minnesota, and after receiving his degree in 1907 he came to Webster City and purchased the office of Dr. G. W. Clark. Here he has been practicing continuously since and is now accorded a liberal patronage. He does excellent work according to the most modern scientific methods and his labors have brought him a measure of success that is very gratifying.

On the 8th of June, 1910, Dr. Lundell was married in Webster City to Miss Kathryn Arthur, a daughter of A. D. Arthur, who was a prominent stock buyer of Hamilton county and formerly of Dickinson county, Iowa. Dr. and Mrs. Lundell have a son, Henry Arthur, born May 2, 1911.

Dr. Lundell holds membership in the Catholic church and is very prominently identified with the fraternal organization formed among the Catholics known as the Knights of Columbus. He is now grand knight of Bishop Clement Smith Council, No. 838, of Webster City, to which he was elected in 1911. He is likewise a member of the Elks lodge, No. 302. He possesses a genial, cordial manner which has won him popularity, and throughout the community Dr. Lundell is spoken of in terms of high regard.

F. N. TAYLOR.

F. N. Taylor, who has been postmaster at Jewell since the 8th of May, 1908, has been a resident of Hamilton county for thirty years. He is a native of the state of New York, his birth having occurred in Wyoming county on the 1st of January, 1842, and a son of Alonzo and Diana (Barber) Taylor. The father was from New Hampshire and the mother from Massachusetts, but they passed the



MR. AND MRS. F. N. TAYLOR

early years of their domestic life in New York, whence they removed in 1850 to Illinois. They first settled in Cook county, but three years later they removed to Carroll county, that state, and there the mother passed away on February 25, 1870. She was long survived by the father, whose death occurred on the 9th of March, 1896.

F. N. Taylor was a child of eight years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Illinois, which state remained his home until 1882, when he came to Hamilton county. He subsequently purchased a hundred and sixty acres of land in Hamilton township, which he improved and cultivated until 1905, when he withdrew from agricultural pursuits and came to Jewell to live, selling his farm to his eldest son. After removing to town he went to work at the carpenter's trade, continuing to follow this occupation until he was appointed postmaster in 1908.

On the 24th of October, 1868, Mr. Taylor was married to Miss Alice A. Hinds, whose birth occurred on the 17th of November, 1848. She is the eldest of the seven children born of the marriage of Alonzo and Laura (Greeley) Hinds, natives of Vermont. The family removed to Illinois in 1866, and there the father passed away two years later. The mother is still living, however, at the venerable age of eighty-eight years, and makes her home with our subject. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor have had eight children. Laura D., the eldest, married George W. Davis by whom she had two children. He passed away on the 16th of February, 1899, and on November 29, 1905, she became the wife of W. G. Seamonds, of Webster City, and they have become the parents of two children. Hattie, the second member of the family, died at the age of two and a half years. Frank F., who now owns and operates the old homestead, was married in December, 1905, to Alexis Neely of Webster City, and they have two children. Myrtle M., the widow of J. S. Riley, who died on April 19, 1898, is the mother of four children and makes her home in Jewell. Iva was married on the 28th of May, 1902, to L. G. Burr, by whom she has had five children and is residing in Illinois. Fred G. died March 15, 1887, aged two years and eight months. Ralph C. is acting as his father's assistant in the postoffice. Vernon M., the youngest member of the family, resides at home.

Mr. Taylor is one of those who responded to the nation's call during the Civil war, and went to the front as a member of Company B, One Hundred and Forty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was in the Army of the Cumberland, but was on provost and detached

duty during the greater period of his service, which comprised a year, having enlisted on the 9th of February, 1865, and received his discharge at Savannah, Georgia, on February 9, 1866. He is a member of Winfield Scott Post, No. 66, G. A. R. of Webster City, and he also belongs to Jewell Lodge, No. 277, A. O. U. W. His political allegiance he gives to the republican party, and while residing in Hamilton township served for five years as assessor and for six as a member of the board of supervisors, having begun his duties in the latter connection in 1889. Mrs. Taylor manifests her religious faith through her affiliation with the Christian church, and numbers many stanch friends among the members of its congregation.

WARREN C. PYLE.

Gradually working his way upward through the utilization of his opportunities, Warren C. Pyle has become cashier of the First National Bank of Webster City, remaining in this connection since the 29th of April, 1909. He early realized that there is no royal road to wealth and also that there is no excellence without labor, and industry and perseverance have constituted the elements of his advancement. He was born in Hardin county, Iowa, May 22, 1873, a son of A. H. and Lucretia L. (Percival) Pyle. The father went to Hardin county when a young man, removing with his father from Ohio to this state. He followed farming while living in Hardin county but he and his wife now make their home in Webster City.

Warren C. Pyle was a pupil in the public schools at Iowa Falls and at fifteen years of age began work in a book store there. While thus employed he also pursued a commercial course in the business college of that place. He occupied his first position for three and a half years and then went to Dubuque, where he finished his business education. In 1891 he returned to Iowa Falls and for a year thereafter was a clerk in the State Bank of that city. This was his initial connection with the banking business and upon that foundation he has builded his subsequent success in that field. In 1892 he went to Blairsburg, where he assisted in organizing the Exchange Bank and remained as assistant cashier until the bank was sold in 1895. He then came to Webster City and for a year thereafter was employed in the grocery store of H. A. Eames. He was next associated with E. G. Popejoy in the furnishing goods business for about

a year and later held various positions in business circles here until 1898, when he became assistant postmaster of Webster City under Charles D. Helen, serving in that capacity until January 1, 1903, when he became bookkeeper of the First National Bank. His loyalty and capability in that connection won him promotion to the position of assistant cashier and on the 29th of April, 1909, he was made cashier. He is a popular official of the bank, always courteous and considerate of the interests of his patrons and at the same time carefully safeguarding the welfare of the institution with which he is connected.

On the 23d of September, 1903, Mr. Pyle was united in marriage to Miss Claire C. Carpenter, whose parents have both passed away. Her father, George W. Carpenter, was engaged in the real-estate business in Webster City. Our subject and his wife have three children, namely: Kempster, who was born on the 28th of October, 1904; George Howard, whose birth occurred on the 9th of July, 1907; and Frances Marjorie, whose natal day was February 15, 1910.

Mr. Pyle belongs to Acacia Lodge, No. 176, F. & A. M.; the Elks lodge, No. 302, of Webster City; and Webster City Lodge, No. 342, I. O. O. F. In more strictly social connections he is a member of the Country Club. He also belongs to the Commercial League, of which he is a director, and since 1908 he has served on the school board. He is deeply interested in all that pertains to the progress and upbuilding of Webster City and his cooperation can ever be counted upon to further movements for the general good. His has been a well spent life, winning for him business advancement and the high esteem of his fellowmen.

FRANK H. BURCHAM.

Frank H. Burcham is one of the well known residents of Blairsburg township, where he successfully engages in general farming and stock-raising. His boyhood was passed in La Salle county, Illinois, where his birth occurred on the 18th of November, 1862. His father, the late A. V. Burcham, was born in New York, while the mother, whose maiden name was Cornelia Schemmerhorn, was a native of Pennsylvania. The family removed to Iowa in 1878, first locating in the vicinity of Alden, Hardin county. Three years later they came to Blairsburg township, locating on

the farm where our subject now resides. Here the parents passed the remainder of their lives, the mother's death occurring on October 16, 1901, and that of the father on October 29, 1908. To them were born six children, five of whom are living. Those beside our subject are as follows: D. B. and W. T., who are residing in the state of Washington; Stella, who is living in Seattle, Washington; Grant G., of Blairsburg township; and Walter James, who died twenty-seven years ago. They were all born in Illinois.

The education of Frank H. Burcham was largely acquired in the common schools of his native state, where he passed the first seventeen years of his life. He came to Hamilton county with his parents, and has ever since made his home in Blairsburg township. In common with the majority of youths who are reared in the country, his energies were early directed along agricultural lines, and by the time he had attained his majority he was thoroughly familiar with the duties and responsibilities of a farmer. As his father's powers of activity began decreasing with the passing years he assumed more and more of the duties connected with the operation of the home place, which he has ever since successfully cultivated. He is a man of earnest purpose and definite ideas, and pursues his undertakings in a well organized systematic manner, meeting with a corresponding degree of success. In addition to his interest in the old homestead he holds the title to another tract of a hundred and sixty acres of choice and well improved land in this township.

On the 17th of February, 1904, Mr. Burcham was married to Miss Elizabeth McNee, who was born in Blairsburg township, her natal day being the 11th of October, 1878. She was reared and educated here, and with the exception of eight years spent in Colorado has always made Hamilton county her home. She is a daughter of J. C. and Agnes J. (Aitkin) McNee, natives of Delaware county, New York, the father's birth having occurred on May 9, 1853, and that of the mother on the 1st of May, 1855. Mrs. Burcham is their eldest child, the other members of the family being as follows: Mrs. Jessie Brown, who was born on the 2d of August, 1880, and died on June 16, 1910; James W., whose birth occurred on the 31st of May, 1882, now a resident of Blairsburg; Mrs. Mary Stafford, who was born on August 3, 1884, also a resident of Blairsburg township; Harvey, whose natal day was the 26th of September, 1886, of Blairsburg; Ralph, who was

born on December 23, 1890, of Blairsburg; Thomas, who was born on March 2, 1893, and died in 1894; and Lela, who was born on the 12th of June, 1896, and is living at home with her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Burcham have become the parents of three sons: Burdette Vincent, who was born on the 16th of November, 1904; Franklin Homer, whose birth occurred on the 4th of May, 1906; and Kenneth Harold, whose natal day was February 25, 1912. They were all born in the old Burcham family home in Blairsburg township.

The family attend the religious services of the Congregational church at Blairsburg, of which Mrs. Burcham is a member. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Knights of Pythias. Mr. Burcham has always taken an active interest in local politics, supporting the republican party. He served for four years as assessor in his township, while for nine years he has held the office of trustee and has been renominated for the same office. He manifests the same positive qualities in the discharge of his official duties as characterize him in business, meeting the responsibilities of his position promptly and efficiently.

JACOB J. PETERSON.

Jacob J. Peterson is conducting a general insurance, real-estate and loan office in Webster City. He has resided continuously in Hamilton county since coming to America when twenty-three years of age. He was born in Denmark, January 29, 1860, and is a son of Peter and Kjerstine (Nelson) Jacobson. The father always resided in Denmark but died when his son Jacob was quite young. The mother still lives in her native land.

Mr. Peterson, whose name introduces this record, was a pupil in the public schools of Denmark and remained a resident of that country until May, 1883, when he came to the United States, attracted by the broader business opportunities which he believed might be secured on this side the Atlantic. He did not tarry on the eastern coast but made his way at once into the interior of the country, settling at Jewell in Hamilton county. He engaged in farming for six years in the eastern part of the county and then, abandoning agricultural life for industrial pursuits, removed to Webster City in

1889 and began work at the carpenter's trade. He was thus employed for five years and in 1896 he organized the present real-estate, loan and insurance business which he is now conducting. Sixteen years have since passed, during which period he has negotiated many important realty transfers, and no man of the locality is better informed concerning realty values. He has also placed many loans, and the insurance policies which he writes represent a large figure each year. He is persistent, diligent and determined, and the success which has come to him is the merited reward and logical result of his labors.

Mr. Peterson makes his home at No. 507½ Second street. He is one of the charter members of Flaws Castle, No. 330, of the Royal Highlanders, of which he has been secretary since 1903. He is also a charter member of the Bankers Union and has been its secretary since 1898. He belongs to St. Paul's Universalist church and is interested in various projects which have for their object the welfare and improvement of the community along material, social and moral lines. He has never yet had occasion to regret his determination to come to America, for here he has found the opportunities which he sought and which are always open to ambitious, energetic young men.

ORLANDO A. HALL, M. D.

Holding to high professional standards, Dr. Orlando A. Hall has throughout the period of his practice in Webster City, beginning in 1876, made continuous progress in his chosen life work. He was born in Crawford county, Pennsylvania, July 6, 1848, a son of Samuel Clark and Lucy A. (Daniels) Hall. The parents came to Iowa in 1856, settling in Webster county, where the father followed farming until 1864. He then left the fields to establish his home in the county seat of Hamilton county, where he remained for a year. In 1865, however, he purchased a farm a mile north of Webster City, upon which he and his wife resided until he retired from active business life, possessing a comfortable competency which enabled him to spend his remaining days without recourse to further labor. Here he passed away November 28, 1895, at the age of seventy-four years, while his wife died in 1901, at the age of seventy-four.

Dr. Hall supplemented his public-school education by a more

specifically literary course in the Iowa State University at Iowa City. A review of the great field of business led him to the determination to make the practice of medicine his life work and with this end in view he entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Keokuk. Later he became a student in the Medical College of Cincinnati and was graduated in 1876 with the M. D. degree. He has since taken post-graduate work in the New York Post Graduate Medical School of New York city, receiving therefrom a diploma in 1888. He also pursued post-graduate work at Edinburgh, Scotland. He opened an office in Webster City in 1876 and has here remained continuously since, save for a period of four years spent in the west on account of his wife's health. His practice has steadily grown with the passing years as he has demonstrated his ability to cope with the intricate problems concerning the checking of the ravages of disease and the restoration of health. He is physician for the Illinois Central Railroad and also was county physician for a considerable period. He belongs to the International Railway Surgical Society and to the State Railway Surgical Society and thus keeps in close touch with the advanced work that is being done by eminent members of the profession throughout the state and country. In addition to the practice of medicine Dr. Hall is known in financial circles as a director of the Farmers National Bank of Webster City.

Dr. Hall has been married twice. In June, 1876, he wedded Miss Frankie McFerren, a daughter of W. D. McFerren, who is a retired agriculturist residing in Webster City. She passed away in August, 1884, leaving one child, Ray E., whose birth occurred on the 18th of December, 1881, and who is now a practicing physician of Portland, Oregon. Dr. Ray E. Hall married Miss Susan Baker and has two sons. On the 10th of November, 1885, Dr. O. A. Hall was again married, his second union being with Miss Ida McFerren, a native of Webster City and a sister of his first wife. They are the parents of three children, as follows: Forrest F., who was born on the 30th of August, 1886; Ralph, whose birth occurred on the 24th of December, 1887; and Clyde W., whose natal day was June 27, 1890. Dr. Forrest F. Hall, a practicing physician of Webster City, wedded Miss. Lorena Quackenbush in August, 1911.

Dr. Hall and his family reside at No. 745 Bank street and theirs is an attractive home—a favorite resort among their friends. Dr. Hall gives his political allegiance to the republican party and in addition to serving as county physician he was county coroner at one time. His religious faith is that of the Congregational church.

At all times he is interested in the material, intellectual, social, political and moral progress of the community and ever casts his influence on the side of right and progress. His position is never an equivocal one. He stands as a loyal supporter of all principles in which he believes and of all projects which he deems beneficial to the community. Almost his entire life has been passed in Iowa. He was a lad of only eight years when his parents removed to Webster county and through the ensuing period, covering fifty-six years, he has witnessed many changes here, rejoicing ever at what has been accomplished along the lines of progress and bearing his part in the work of general development.

OLIVER GROVE METCALF.

In his active, useful and busy life as one of the leading dry-goods merchants of Webster City, Iowa, Oliver Grove Metcalf is carrying out the honorable traditions upon which his father founded the business. He has been identified with this line of activity during practically all his business career, and by his intelligent use of favorable opportunity, his unflagging industry and integrity of a high order, has built up a flourishing business and won for himself a high place in the regard of his community. His store is located at 620-22 Second street, and is one of the prosperous dry-goods concerns of Webster City.

Mr. Metcalf is a native of Ohio, having been born in Belmont county in 1870. His parents, Jesse P. and Clara (Grove) Metcalf, left Ohio and came to Iowa in 1871. Their first residence was in West Liberty and later they made their home in Stuart, Iowa. The family removed to California and spent a few years in that state before they returned to Iowa in 1894. In that year they settled in Webster City, where Mr. Metcalf's parents are still living. The father was a merchant during his active life and built up during the course of his career a flourishing and prosperous dry-goods business. He has been prominent in commercial circles of many different cities and is a veteran of the Civil war, having served in an Ohio regiment. On the maternal side Mr. Metcalf is a descendant of General John B. Grove, who wrote the first peace petition during the time of the Rebellion and was a prominent officer in an Ohio regiment.



O. G. METCALF

Oliver G. Metcalf was educated in the public schools of Stuart, Iowa, and supplemented this by a course at the Dexter Normal College and study at the Davenport Business College. He has been connected with mercantile business during his active career, beginning in a humble capacity and advancing to a prosperous position. His active career began in Stuart, Iowa, where he was employed by a dry-goods firm. After a short time he went to California, and returning east to Chicago was engaged for three years as an employe of the Boston Store. Another year he was connected with Mandel Brothers of the same city. For a short time after this he abandoned the dry-goods business and mined in Summit county, Colorado, until 1904. On the 25th of January in that year he came to Webster City and became a partner in his father's mercantile enterprise under the firm name of J. P. Metcalf & Son. His influence was immediately felt in the rapid development of the business and his energies and activities directed along progressive and systematic lines soon made the institution flourishing and prosperous. In 1909 Mr. Metcalf purchased his father's interest and moved the store to its present location at 620-22 Second street. He did not change the firm name but continues the active conduct of the business under the old title although he is now the sole owner.

On June 4, 1905, Mr. Metcalf was united in marriage to Miss Veda Caraway, a daughter of W. A. Caraway, a retired merchant of Webster City. They have two children: Wendell Oliver, born March 22, 1906; and Miriam Caraway, born on the 10th of February, 1908.

Mr. Metcalf is one of the prosperous merchants of Webster City. Through undeviating allegiance to high principles of business morality he has added to the city in which he resides a well developed and expanding enterprise and to the ranks of her citizenship a thoroughly honest man.

CHARLES CASTNER.

Charles Castner cultivates eighty-six acres of fertile and highly improved land adjacent to Blairsburg, where he successfully engages in agricultural pursuits. He was born in Blairsburg, then known as Rose Grove township, on the 29th of March, 1872, and is a son of George and Elizabeth (Blair) Castner. The father was born in New Jersey on the 25th of November, 1842,

and there passed the first five years of his life. The family removed to Illinois in 1847, and six years later continued their journey westward to Iowa. George Castner, who has been continuously a resident of Hamilton county since 1860, was one of the early stage drivers of Iowa. He drove the stage from Nevada in 1865, and later from Iowa Falls to Fort Dodge, but after the railroads were completed in this section of the state, he gave up this occupation and turned his attention to agricultural pursuits and now owns one of the best improved and most valuable farms in Hamilton county. The mother was a native of Ohio, having been born in Delhi, that state, on March 15, 1842. She came to Iowa with her parents in 1856, and thereafter made this state her home, her death occurring in Blairsburg in January, 1910. To Mr. and Mrs. Castner were born three sons, of whom our subject is the eldest. The second son, Roy, was born on the 25th of April, 1875, and is now residing in New Mexico; and Daniel, whose natal day was March 8, 1878, is living in Blairsburg.

The entire life of Charles Castner has been passed in the vicinity in which he now resides. His early years were not distinguished by any unusual occurrence from those of other lads who were reared in the rural sections of Iowa at that period. In the acquirement of his education he attended the common schools, and while still pursuing his studies began assisting his father with the lighter work of the farm, his duties being increased with the passing years until he was thoroughly familiar with the work and responsibilities of the agriculturist. By the time he had attained his maturity he was well qualified to engage in farming on his own account and has always devoted his energies to this line of activity. He is enterprising and progressive in his methods as is evidenced by the general appearance of the farm, which is well improved and equipped. The fields are substantially fenced and under high cultivation, and he raises a good grade of stock. He gives his personal supervision to everything about the place, directing his undertakings with intelligence and foresight, and is meeting with a corresponding degree of success.

Mr. Castner was married in 1896, to Miss Grace Walsworth, who was born in Manchester, Delaware county, Iowa, on April 25, 1872. She is a daughter of John C. and Sybil (Abbey) Walsworth, the former a native of Adams, Jefferson county, New York, his birth there occurring on December 26, 1830; and the

latter of Middlebury, Vermont, her natal day having been April 5, 1830. They removed to Hamilton county in 1886, locating on a farm in Blairsburg township, which the father cultivated during the remainder of his active life. He passed away on the 29th of January, 1900, on the old homestead, and there the mother's death occurred the year following. They were the parents of two daughters, the elder being Mrs. Elizabeth Keith, also a resident of Blairsburg, who was born on January 25, 1858.

To Mr. and Mrs. Castner there have been born two children: George Frank, who was born on the 29th of June, 1898; and Marie Helen, whose birth occurred March 2, 1900. They are both attending the public schools of Blairsburg.

The family attend the Congregational church, in which the parents hold membership, and fraternally Mr. Castner belongs to Blairsburg Camp, No. 7848, M. W. A. He votes the republican ticket and takes an active interest in local politics. He was for a time constable of Blairsburg township, and was a member of the council when the town was first organized and is now serving on the board of education. Having passed his entire life in the county, Mr. Castner enjoys a wide acquaintance among its citizens, by whom he is accorded the respect and esteem he well merits by reason of his high principles, integrity and honorable methods of conducting his business transactions.

CHARLES A. DEO.

Charles A. Deo, who owns and operates a popular, up-to-date hotel in Stratford, was born December 5, 1867, in Clinton county, Iowa, and is a son of Anson and Mary (McCreary) Deo, the former a native of Canada and the latter of Clinton county. The mother has the distinction of having been the first child born in that county. Mr. and Mrs. Anson Deo were married in Clinton county but in 1870 removed to Hamilton county, where the father engaged in farming for a period of five years. He then moved with his family to Hooks Point and there built the first hotel established in that place, successfully carrying on the business for seven years. He then removed to Stratford—the year in which that town was started—and established himself in the hotel business. He conducted his hotel for one

year and then sold out and removed to Dayton, at which place he conducted a hotel for one year. He next moved to Coon Rapids and carried on an eating house for one year. He then went to Madrid, where he was engaged in the lumber and wood business for a period of six months after which he returned to Stratford and repurchased the hotel which he originally built in that place and successfully conducted the house until his death, which occurred in 1907, at the age of seventy-four. His wife is still living at the age of seventy-three and maintains her residence with the subject of this review.

Charles A. Deo is the fourth in order of birth in a family of six children, the others being: Claud and Adalaska, both deceased; and Albert A., Harry and Hally, all residents of Stratford. Our subject was reared in his parents' home and received his early education in the public schools of Iowa. He remained under the parental roof and as a young man assisted his father in the operation of the several hotels with which the latter was identified. At the time of the father's death he took charge of the hotel which he has since successfully conducted. He is now the owner of the hotel property and is also the owner of the Nassig business block in Stratford. Mr. Deo is affiliated with the republican party and is one of the substantial, enterprising and trusted business men of his town.

HOWARD HALE.

Howard Hale, a successful real-estate dealer of Blairsburg, who is also selling automobiles, was born in Arlington Heights, Illinois, on October 10, 1860. He is a son of Anthony and Jane (Crouch) Hale, the former a native of England, his birth having there occurred on the 20th of September, 1833, while the mother was born in Jefferson county, New York, on March 31, 1833. They removed to Iowa in 1871, locating on a farm in Collins township, Story county, where for many years the father was successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits. He is now living retired, however, and he and the mother make their home in Blairsburg where they own a very pleasant and attractive residence, and enjoy the ease and comfort provided by a substantial competence. They are the parents of three children, of whom

our subject is the eldest. Alice, the second member of the family, became the wife of Isaac Day, a well known resident of Hamilton county, who is mentioned at greater length elsewhere in this work; and James, the younger son, whose birth occurred on December 17, 1873, is a resident of Collins township, Story county.

The education of Howard Hale was begun in his native state, where he passed the first eleven years of his life, and completed in Story county, Iowa. As is usual with farmer lads he early became familiar with the duties of the agriculturist and the practical methods of tilling the fields and caring for the crops. When ready to begin his independent career he naturally adopted the vocation for which he was best qualified, and subsequently engaged in farming for himself in Collins township, Story county. In February, 1896, he came to this county and purchased eighty acres of land in Williams township, to which he subsequently added another eighty, and then began improving it. He applied himself to its further cultivation and improvement until March, 1912, when he withdrew from the work of the fields and removed to Blairsburg, where he owns a residence. He is now devoting his entire time to the buying and selling of real estate, in connection with which he is also dealing in automobiles and is the owner of one of the finest cars in the county. He is prospering in his undertakings and has recently acquired a hundred and sixty acres of well improved land located on section 1, Blairsburg township.

In Story county, this state, on October 17, 1885, Mr. Hale was married to Miss Etta J. Marsh, who was born in Eden township, Marshall county, Iowa, September 18, 1868, and was there reared to womanhood. She is a daughter of Louis W. and Laura (Milholland) Marsh, who were for many years residents of Marshall county, whence they later removed to Story county, but are now residing in Pasadena, California. The father, who is seventy-five years of age was born in England, but came to Iowa in his early manhood and was one of the pioneer settlers of Marshall county. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Marsh is as follows: Ralph, who is a resident of Collins, this state; Walter, of Granite, Oklahoma; Scott, who makes his home in Mitchell County, Iowa; Mrs. Hale; Mrs. Laura Keagles, of Collins; Mrs. Grace Weiss, also of Collins; and Minnie and Blanche, both of whom died in

California. The children were all born in Marshall county, but the younger members of the family were reared in Story county.

Mr. and Mrs. Hale have six children: Arthur, who resides in Blairstown; Mrs. Myrtle Burton, of Webster City; and Truman, Rachel, Ruth and Millard. The four eldest were born in Collins township, Story county, and the last two named in Williams township, this county.

The family are members of the Congregational church, in the work of which they take a helpful and active interest. Mr. Hale votes the republican ticket and for two years served as assessor in Williams township, and he has also been a member of the school board. He is an excellent type of citizen, public-spirited and progressive and always ready to cooperate in forwarding every worthy movement, and is accorded the esteem and regard of a large circle of acquaintances.

THEODORE CUTLER.

Farming in Hamilton county offers rich reward to well directed energy and industry. The soil is fertile and productive and an able and intelligent man is sure of acquiring through its cultivation a comfortable competency. There were, however, days when this victory over natural conditions was not so easy of accomplishment, days when the land was a discouraging waste, when the country was sparsely settled and when broad prairies stretched endlessly between the scattered houses. Agriculture under these conditions presented more difficulties and it was in these times that Theodore Cutler did his most constructive and useful work. He is now living in comparative retirement after a long life spent in the cultivation of the soil and his intelligent labor in a highly useful field of activity has won him many friends whom his genial and kindly nature binds to him more closely.

He was born March 19, 1845, at Sunbury, Delaware county, Ohio. The family has been in North America for many generations and was represented in the War of 1812 by General Cutler, grandfather of our subject, who did distinguished service at the battle of Sacket Harbor. Robert O. Cutler, the father of our subject, was born in Canada and at an early date removed to

Ohio, where he taught school and farmed for some time. He spent a few years in Illinois and came to Iowa in 1855, settling in Clinton county where he remained for one year. His next removal was to Jones county and the twelve years which he spent in that vicinity resulted in his acquiring a high and respected place among its citizens. In 1869 he moved to Hamilton county and bought a farm on section 33, Fremont township, where he was active in the cultivation of the soil until his death, on March 1, 1876, in the fifty-sixth year of his age. His wife, Lydia (Black) Cutler, survived him many years, dying on June 5, 1910, at the age of ninety-two.

Theodore Cutler was the only child born to his parents and received an ordinary country school education. He early became familiar with the details of farming by his work upon his father's property. When the latter died, in 1876, Mr. Cutler took full charge of the management and direction of his large and constantly growing enterprise. He is now the owner of three hundred and forty-three acres of highly improved land in Fremont township and through his efficient and intelligent work this property has been converted from raw prairie land into a modern, sanitary and highly productive farm. In the early days of Mr. Cutler's activities, at the period of his first settlement in Iowa, there was only one house east of his holdings as far as Maxwell's lane and only one between the Cutler farm and the little town of Duncombe on the west. The intervening territory was prairie land which had never been touched by the plow. The farm which Mr. Cutler and his father cultivated was at that time entirely unimproved. There were no buildings, no farm equipment and scarcely any facilities for the cultivation of the soil. The three hundred and forty-three acres which constitute the homestead are today tiled, fenced and equipped with large and commodious buildings, and comprise one of the model properties in Hamilton county. To this happy result the efficient management and skill of Theodore Cutler has been a contributing cause and the standards which have influenced his activities during the years have been influential factors in the upbuilding of Fremont township. Mr. Cutler continued personally to supervise his farm until 1908, when he met with an unfortunate accident. When he was feeding his hogs one of the animals bit him on the knee and this wound eventually necessitated the amputation of his leg. He is now practically retired from active work and has rented the farm

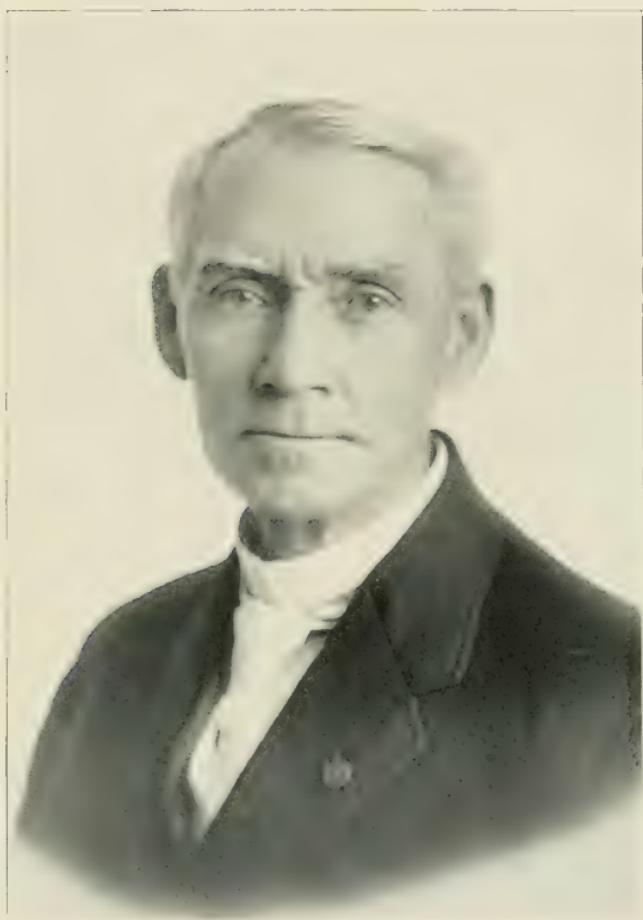
to his son-in-law, Frank J. Webb. However, he still maintains his residence upon the property and is the oldest pioneer in Fremont township.

On January 15, 1868, Mr. Cutler was united in marriage to Miss Belle Carter, of Monticello, Jones county, Iowa. The original residence of the Carter family was in Virginia and Mrs. Cutler's grandfather was a soldier in the Revolutionary war in a Virginia regiment. Joshua and Hannah Eliza (Randall) Carter, the parents of Mrs. Cutler, came to Iowa at an early date and settled in Jones county, removing in 1851 to Dubuque county, where they remained until they returned to Jones county. Late in life they moved to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and thence to Chicago, where the father's death occurred when he was eighty-one years of age and where the mother died when she was eighty years old. To Mr. and Mrs. Cutler have been born three children. Cora married on January 1, 1902, Frank J. Webb, a farmer in Fremont township, by whom she has one daughter, Elma Iona, born in September, 1903. Harry married Miss Myrtle Armstrong. He is now assistant cashier in the First National Bank of Webster City, Iowa. The youngest child, Roy Verne, married Sadie Sparks, by whom he has two children, Harold and Veva. He resides with his family in La Veta, Colorado, where he occupies the position of postmaster.

Mr. Cutler although he has retired from active life is still prominent in agricultural circles of Hamilton county. The state of Iowa owes him a debt of gratitude for his services as a capable organizer and developer and it is paying the obligation in the coin of universal honor and esteem.

FRANK E. LANDERS.

Frank E. Landers, who since the 1st of May, 1899, has been connected with the First National Bank at Webster City, and since May 1, 1910, has been its auditor, and whose record as a soldier and citizen measures up to the high standard which he has attained as a business man, was born at Upper Lisle, Broome county, New York, July 17, 1844, his parents being John and Mary P. (Bidwell) Landers. The father remained upon the farm on which he was born in Broome county until 1864 and then, removing to the middle west,



FRANK E. LANDERS

settled in Woodstock, Illinois, where he remained for about four years. In 1869 he removed to Hamilton county, Iowa, where his remaining days were passed.

Frank E. Landers was a pupil in the public schools of his native county, dividing his time between the acquirement of his education and the work of the home farm to the time of his enlistment for service in the Civil war. For a year or more the country had been involved in a sanguinary conflict when he felt that he could no longer content himself to remain at home and, although but a boy in his teens, he offered his services to the government, enlisting in 1862 as a member of the Sixteenth New York Battery, with which he served for nineteen months, when he was honorably discharged on account of physical disability. He then returned to the Empire state and in 1869 he came to Hamilton county, Iowa, with his father. For ten years thereafter he was engaged in general farming and on the expiration of that decade was elected auditor of the county, in which position he served from the 1st of January, 1880, until the 1st of January, 1884. On his retirement from office he spent a year in a clerical position in the Farmers' National Bank and in 1889 he went to Des Moines, where he was employed for nine years as clerk of the executive council of the state of Iowa, continuing in that capacity until 1897. He then returned to Hamilton county and became connected with the First National Bank, of Webster City, of which he is now auditor.

In 1874 Mr. Landers was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Olive Barrows, a daughter of Lathrop H. S. Barrows, who was a manufacturer of millwork in Woodstock, Illinois, and now resides at Pasadena, California. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Landers have been born four children, as follows: Leonora, whose birth occurred in 1875 and who is now living in Pasadena, California; Lou Cornelia, who was born in 1877 and passed away in 1908; John Clement, who was born in 1879 and wedded Miss Sarah L. Yoeckel, by whom he has a son and daughter; and Frank Lathrop, whose birth occurred in 1888, and who resides in Webster City. John Clement Landers, a civil engineer by profession, is engaged in the United States irrigation work. These children are not only entitled to membership with the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution but are also descended from soldiers who fought in the Pequot war, the King Philip's war, and the French and Indian war, while one of the founders of the family in America came to this country as one of the passengers on the Mayflower.

The military spirit of his ancestors found expression in Frank E. Landers not only in his service in defense of the Union but again in 1884, when he organized Company C of the Sixth Regiment of the Iowa National Guard, now the Fifty-sixth regiment. He was its first captain and resigned only when he went to Des Moines. He belongs to Winfield Scott Post, No. 66, G. A. R., and is its present commander, which position he also occupied twenty-nine years ago. His political support is given to the republican party and for four years he served as councilman of Webster City. His religious faith is that of the Congregational church. His interest in all that pertains to the material, political, social and moral welfare of the community is deep and sincere and is manifest in many tangible and helpful ways.

HARRY DALLAS RICHARDS.

Harry Dallas Richards successfully engages in general agricultural pursuits and stock-raising in Independence township, where he owns a valuable farm of one hundred and eighty-four acres, located on sections 31 and 32. He was born in Mattoon, Illinois, on the 5th of February, 1872, and is a son of William and Almira (Campbell) Richards. The parents were born, reared and married in Ohio, but subsequently removed to Illinois. Two years later, in 1873, they returned to the Buckeye state, and there the mother passed away in the spring of 1904, at the age of fifty-six years. The father continued to make his home in Ohio until 1909, when he came to Iowa and is now residing in Hamilton county. He is sixty-two years of age.

The eldest in a family of nine, Harry Dallas Richards remained at home until he had attained his majority. He was educated in the common schools of Ohio, and while engaged in mastering the fundamental principles of English learning, was qualifying for his present vocation by assisting his father with the work of the fields and care of the stock. When he was twenty-one, he left the parental roof and started out to make his own way in the world. He spent the first year he was away from home in Indian Territory, coming from there to Boone county, Iowa, where he worked out as a farm hand for four years. At the expiration of that time he began farming on his own account as a renter in Clear Lake township, this county. He continued to cultivate leased land during the succeed-

ing ten years, and then bought his present place on which he located in the spring of 1908. His entire tract is fenced, one hundred acres of it hog tight, and his fields are tiled. One hundred and thirty-five acres of his land is under high cultivation and the greater portion of it planted to corn and oats, his principal crops. He owns a full blooded Aberdeen Angus bull and makes a specialty of this breed of cattle and he is also raising Duroc Jersey hogs. In addition to feeding his own stock he annually buys cattle which he also prepares for the market.

On the 9th of March, 1898, Mr. Richards was married to Miss Emma Goodman, a daughter of Jacob and Miranda Goodman of Ohio. They were reared in their native state but married in Iowa and subsequently settled on a hundred and fifty-six acres of government land in Boone county, which the father cultivated during the remainder of his active life. He passed away on his homestead on December 4, 1898, at the age of seventy years, but was survived by the mother, who died April 5, 1900. Mrs. Richards, who was born on the 30th of December, 1873, is the fifth in order of birth in a family of eight, and the mother of three children: Leroy, Margaret Wave and Gertrude.

The family attend the Methodist Episcopal church of which Mrs. Richards is a member. He accords his political support to the republican party and is now secretary of the school board. Diligent and enterprising in his methods, Mr. Richards is meeting with success in the development of his interests and is numbered among the prosperous and efficient agriculturists of his community.

JAMES N. OMSTEAD.

James N. Omstead, vice president of the state bank of Woolstock, Iowa, holds a high place in the financial circles of the city and has achieved success by reason of his upright methods, his conservative but thoroughly liberal views and his policy of gradual expansion. He is a native of Iowa, having been born in Webster City, in October, 1858. His father, Nelson G. Omstead was one of the earliest settlers of Hamilton county, coming to that section in 1854. A more extended mention of his life appears on another page in this book. Mr. Omstead's mother was Sarah

(Evans) Omstead, who settled in Iowa with her husband in the early times.

James N. Omstead acquired his education in the public schools of his native city and followed the usual course of studies until he laid aside his books. In 1876 he engaged in farming in the northern part of Hamilton county and was active in this occupation until 1881. He joined his father in that year in the operation of a grain and live stock shipping business at Woolstock, afterward running the concern independently. He was successful in the conduct of this enterprise until 1892 and his identification with it was continuous with the exception of two years which he spent upon his farm. Mr. Omstead early in his career felt that agricultural and purely commercial walks of life did not offer him a sufficient scope for his activities. He had a constructive and original mind and possessed a power of initiative and control which would have made him successful in any line of commercial or professional activity. His organizing talents found vent in the foundation in August, 1892, of the state bank of Woolstock and he has been a dominating and influential force in its development since that time. The first office which he held in the new institution was that of cashier and he retained that position until January 1, 1912, when he was elected vice president, his son, Nelson C. Omstead, succeeding to his former position of cashier. Mr. Omstead is well known as a conservative, sagacious financier, who is always eager to further the interests of his patrons and who keeps his mind always open to every new development in banking methods. He has brought the institution of which he is at the head to an influential and prominent place in the business world of Woolstock and the policy of broad minded and intelligent activity upon which he founded it he has followed continuously since that time.

On March 5, 1884, Mr. Omstead was united in marriage to Miss Mary B. Tatham, the daughter of William and Mary Tatham of Webster City, and they became the parents of four children: William H., of whom more extended mention is made on another page of this work; Nelson C., of Woolstock, Iowa, who married Miss Velva Neese and has one son, Lamont Elston; Mary Bell; and Edna E., both of whom are living with their parents.

Although James Omstead carries on his business activities in Woolstock, Iowa, he maintains his residence in Webster City

where he has a comfortable and commodious home at No. 608 Bank street. In banking circles he is looked upon as a sagacious, honorable and high minded man whose constructive work along lines of organization and progress has been one of the great individual forces in financial upbuilding.

JOSHUA W. YOUNG.

Joshua W. Young is living retired in Webster City but for many years was an active factor in its business circles, and the record which he made in commercial connections is one that reflects credit and honor upon the city as well as upon himself. He has never deviated from the course which he believed to be right between himself and his fellowmen and, basing his principles and actions upon the relations which govern strict and unswerving integrity and industry, he gradually advanced until he gained a position of prominence and prosperity in the business world. He was born November 30, 1843, in Lamoine, Hancock county, Maine, the son of Stephen and Betsey (McFarland) Young. The father was throughout his life a ship carpenter of Maine, and died in 1890, when he was eighty-five years of age. He had long survived his wife, who passed away in 1874, when sixty-four years of age.

Joshua W. Young pursued his education in the public schools of the Pine Tree state during the winter seasons and at the age of fifteen years started out in life on his own account by following the sea. He engaged in fishing along the Maine coast and off Newfoundland, for several years but in 1873 became a house carpenter and ship-joiner, which trades he followed until 1880. That year witnessed his arrival in Webster City, where he entered the lumber yard of F. D. Young, who though of the same name was not a relative. The following year he returned to New England and after two months brought his wife and children to Hamilton county. He then again entered the employ of Mr. Young, with whom he continued for a year, when he engaged in the contracting business on his own account. In 1884, however, the lumberyard of F. D. Young was destroyed by fire and at that time Joshua W. Young entered into partnership with his former employer for the conduct of the lumber business under the firm style of F. D. & J. W. Young. This relation was maintained pleasantly and profitably until 1895, when Joshua W. Young pur-

chased his partner's interest and conducted the business alone until 1908, when he sold out to his son Calvin and C. H. Clifton, who are now conducting the business under the firm name of Young & Clifton. The father then retired from active business connections save for the management which he gives to his invested interests. He is a director of the First National Bank of Webster City. His life has indeed been well spent, bringing to him success as the reward of earnest and intelligently directed effort.

Mr. Young has been married twice. At Ellsworth, Maine, on the 16th of January, 1866, he wedded Miss Margaret A. Millikin, a daughter of John and Rosilla (Coats) Millikin, of Hancock county, Maine. Her father was a prominent farmer there and a very influential citizen. He represented his district in both the house and state senate of the general assembly and was active in shaping useful legislation for the commonwealth. He died in 1890, while his wife survived until 1892. The death of Mrs. Young occurred February 2, 1899, and was the occasion of deep and widespread regret to her many friends as well as her immediate family. There were four children of that marriage: Calvin, who wedded Grace Clagg and is well known in business circles as senior partner of the lumber firm of Young & Clifton of Webster City; Ethel, the wife of Seth W. Crabtree, of Newport, Washington; Martha, who is the wife of Lewis Lenhard, of the firm of Cash and Lenhard, of Webster City, and Earl R., also living in Newport, Washington. In 1903 Mr. Young was again married, his second union being with Mrs. R. T. Holt, a daughter of F. D. Hodgkin, of Hancock county, Maine. By her first marriage she had one son, Frank D. Holt, now a student in the Iowa State College at Ames.

Mr. Young has ever been recognized as a man worthy of high trust and this fact is further indicated in that Kendall Young, not a relative, named him executor in his will. As stated, he had full charge of all of the affairs of the Kendall Young estate and supervision of his bequest to the Webster City Library and its endowment, and is still a member of the board of library trustees. He belongs to the Christian Science church and to several other organizations, including Acacia Lodge, No. 176, F. & A. M., of which he is a past master; Hope Chapter, No. 88, R. A. M., of which he is a past high priest; Triune Commandery, No. 41, K. T., of which he is a past eminent commander; Sharon Chapter, No. 148, O. E. S., of which he became a charter member and its first worthy patron; and Iowa Consistory, No. 3, A. A. S. R., of Des Moines, in which he attained the

thirty-second degree, Scottish Rite, and Za-Ga-Zig Temple of the Mystic Shrine, also at Des Moines. His political allegiance has ever been given to the republican party since age conferred upon him the right of franchise and his opinions are the result of careful study and investigation into the vital questions and issues of the day. For six years he was a member of the Webster City school board and for two terms he was the chief executive officer of the city. His record as mayor is highly commendable, indicating his loyalty to and deep interest in everything pertaining to municipal advancement.

In his business career Mr. Young always employed constructive methods, building his interests upon a safe, substantial basis of energy, close application and careful management. He was never known to take advantage of the interests of another and his upright dealing, reasonable prices and earnest efforts to please his patrons brought to him a continuous and growing patronage. From this he derived a substantial income year by year until he was in a financial position to retire and is now enjoying a well earned rest with leisure for those activities which are of greatest interest to him.

FRANK REINHARDT.

Frank Reinhardt, who resides on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 4, Independence township, is one of the representative agriculturists of Hamilton county. He was born in Illinois on the 10th of November, 1872, and is a son of Fred and Theresa Reinhardt. The parents were born, reared and married in Germany, whence they emigrated to the United States in 1866, locating in Illinois. In 1874, they came to Hamilton county and the father purchased a quarter section of partially improved land in Cass township. There he and the mother passed the remainder of their lives, her death occurring in 1894 and his in 1900, and both are buried in Graceland cemetery at Webster City. Our subject is the third in order of birth in a family of eight children, the eldest of whom were born in Illinois.

Frank Reinhardt, who was only a lad of two years when his parents came to Hamilton county, received his education in the district schools of Cass township. While still in his early boyhood he began to assist his father with the work of the farm and was taught the value of thrift and diligence in the acquirement of a successful career. He

remained at home until he had attained his majority, and then started out to make his own way in the world. For five years thereafter he worked out as a farm hand and during that time he accumulated sufficient money to enable him to begin farming on his own account as a renter. Twelve years ago he removed to the place where he is now living and after the death of his father he bought the interest of the other heirs in the old homestead, comprised of two hundred acres located on sections 35 and 13 of Cass and Boone townships. All of the improvements on the latter place were made by our subject and his father and under their capable management it has been converted into one of the valuable properties of the township. Mr. Reinhardt is cultivating both places, consisting of three hundred and sixty acres, in connection with which he is also breeding and raising a high grade of stock. His cattle are all shorthorns and Herefords and he is raising Chester White hogs and Clyde horses.

In 1896, Mr. Reinhardt was married to Miss Minnie Jones, a daughter of Christ and Caroline Jones. Mrs. Reinhardt was born in Germany on the 27th of February, 1876, and is the eldest of five children born of her mother's second marriage. The parents emigrated to the United States in 1885 and located in Webster City, where the father is still residing, but the mother passed away in 1895. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Reinhardt, as follows: Theresa, Arthur, Clarine and George.

The parents are members of the German Lutheran church. Mr. Reinhardt votes the democratic ticket and has served as school director for three years and treasurer of the school board for one. He is a diligent man, of persistent effort and determination of purpose and to these qualities must be attributed the success which has come to him.

FRANK A. HUDDLESTUN.

Frank A. Huddlestun is proprietor of the Edgewood farm at the south end of Superior street, Webster City, Iowa, and is specializing in the breeding of pure-bred Shire horses. He was born in DeWitt county, Illinois, and is a son of Charles H. and Catherine (Campbell) Huddlestun, both natives of Illinois. The father farmed in that state for many years and was numbered among its scientific and progressive agriculturists.



F. A. HUDDLESTUN

Frank A. Huddlestan received his education in the public schools of his native state and laid aside his books at the age of seventeen years. He then started to farm for himself and was successful in this field of activity in Illinois until 1892, when he came to Hamilton county, Iowa, where he purchased four hundred and seventy-six acres of land in Hamilton township, upon which he resided until 1906. He subsequently disposed of his holdings and moved to Webster City, where he bought two hundred and twenty-two acres in the south part of the city and proceeded to improve and develop his holdings along progressively scientific lines. His property is known as the Edgewood farm and is the meeting place for horse lovers from all over the state of Iowa. Mr. Huddlestan devotes his entire attention to the breeding of pure-bred Shire horses and has at the head of the stud, "Goadby Duke," a pure-bred, imported by the Pioneer Stud Farm of Bushnell, Illinois, and from them purchased by Mr. Huddlestan. He is thoroughly acquainted with the details connected with the breeding and care of horses and has attained a gratifying degree of success in this field of activity. His farm is a model property in Webster City and Mr. Huddlestan is entirely responsible for his present degree of prosperity. He started in life at an early age with no assets beyond a clear and alert mind and an enterprising character. He is now one of the substantial agriculturists of Hamilton county and Edgewood farm is one of the most beautiful properties in this section of the country. It is located in the south end of Webster City on Superior street. Its many acres are under cultivation in the most suitable grains and vegetables and Mr. Huddlestan's home is located in their center, surrounded by beautiful lawns and shade trees. It is one of the most modern dwellings in Hamilton county and perhaps in the state of Iowa. It is built of native stone and is twenty-four feet long by thirty-four feet wide with two stories and a basement. It is equipped with running water on each floor and is lighted by electricity. It has a modern and sanitary equipment, and its plumbing and bathing facilities are models of their kind. Mr. Huddlestan has also rebuilt his barn. It is forty-six feet wide by eighty feet long, and gives ample room to his large stock of pure-bred horses. Mr. Huddlestan's silo, dairy house, corn crib, and other necessary buildings upon his property have all been erected during the period of his occupancy and are all modern and improved structures.

In 1888 Mr. Huddlestan was united in marriage to Miss Cora Campbell, a daughter of Elijah and Sarah Campbell, the former a prominent farmer in Illinois. Mr. Huddlestan gives his allegiance to

the Methodist Episcopal church and has always been active in the religious circles of Webster City. He was chairman of the church building committee and is largely responsible for the imposing structure which this organization erected. As a member of the Shire Horse Breeders' Association of America he meets men who are interested and engaged in that line of occupation. He is noted among the most extensive and representative agriculturists in the county. He has added two hundred and twenty-two acres in a highly improved and developed condition to the resources of the state of Iowa and Hamilton county is the richer and the more progressive by reason of his well directed activities.

CALVIN YOUNG.

Business success is not in itself a thing of unusual merit or value but as an end which can only be achieved through industry, concentration and skillful use of opportunity, it entitles a man to the respect and esteem of his fellow citizens. The career of Calvin Young, senior partner in the firm of Young & Clifton, lumber dealers, of Webster City, is an exemplification of success gained by alertness and activity of mind and business ability of a high order. Mr. Young is a native of Maine, having been born in Lamoine, July 22, 1867. His parents were Joshua W. and Margaret (Milliken) Young, of whom more extended mention is made on another page of this work. Mr. Young came to Webster City with his parents in 1881 and finished the education begun in Maine in the public schools of Hamilton county. He began his active career in 1893 when he established the grocery business of Calvin Young & Company. He met with success from the beginning. He founded his prosperity upon industry, integrity and a discriminating business sense which combined with his accurate grasp of the details of an intricate situation brought him rapid advancement in the commercial world. Mr. Young was identified with the grocery business for three years and at the end of this period of time he accepted a position in his father's lumber yard and learned the details of this business from the beginning. His advancement was rapid, well deserved and based on merit. In 1906 his father offered him a partnership in the business and the firm operated under the name of J. W. Young & Son. The concern gradually developed along progressive lines until it became one of the largest and most repre-

sentative industrial enterprises in Webster City. Much of its growth at this period was due to the energetic activity and resourcefulness of Calvin Young, who, besides being thoroughly versed in the details of the occupation with which he is connected, brought to the conduct of the enterprise modern and scientific ideas of commercial operation. In 1908 his father retired and Calvin Young formed a partnership with C. H. and V. L. Clifton, running the lumber business under the firm name of Young & Clifton. It is under this title that the enterprise is now managed and as such it is known throughout Hamilton county. The dominating factor in its success is the enterprising spirit of Calvin Young, who brings to his business operations a highly intelligent and progressive mind and a keen discrimination coupled with the strict honesty which influences every relation of his life.

On June 21, 1893, Mr. Young was united in marriage to Miss Grace Clagg, a daughter of J. P. Clagg, who was a well known hardware merchant of Webster City before his death in 1905. Mr. and Mrs. Young have three children: James, born in 1901; Thelma, born in 1907; and Julia, whose birth occurred in 1909. The family is very prominent in social circles and the residence at No. 822 Second street is a charming center of hospitality in Webster City. Mrs. Young is prominent in club affairs and her pleasing and generous personality make her widely popular among her many friends. She belongs to the Six O'clock Club of Webster City and is active and interested in the affairs of the leading organizations of that city.

Mr. Young is a member of Acacia Lodge, No. 176, F. & A. M., and was secretary of this organization for two years. He belongs to Hope Chapter, No. 88, R. A. M., and Sharon Chapter, No. 148, O. E. S. In fraternal relations Mr. Young is popular and prominent for he possesses an engaging personality and a genuinely honest character.

JAMES WALTER SAYRE.

James Walter Sayre, station agent for the Illinois Central Railroad at Blairsburg, was born in the township of which he is now a resident, on the 8th of April, 1878. He is the eldest child of James Edward and Lucy Jane (Jaycox) Sayre, the former a native of Wisconsin, his birth having there occurred on Independence day, 1852, while the mother was born in the state of New York on the 23d of May, 1857. The parents came to Hamilton county in 1875, making

their home in Blairsburg until the year following the birth of their son, when they removed to Minnehaha county, South Dakota, where the father engaged in farming for six years. At the expiration of that period he and his family located in the vicinity of Valentine, Cherry county, Nebraska. There he continued his agricultural pursuits for eleven years, and then returned to Blairsburg, where he and the mother still reside. To Mr. and Mrs. Sayre were born seven children, those beside our subject being as follows: Mrs. Jennie C. Hawks, who was born on the 17th of June, 1880, a resident of Fort Dodge, Iowa; Edward Howard, a foreman in the gypsum factory at Fort Dodge, whose natal day was the 3d of March, 1882; Mrs. Lucy Virginia Stouffer, who was born November 25, 1885, of Des Moines, Iowa; Herbert Jaycox, whose birth occurred on the 20th of November, 1894; Coe, whose natal day was March 10, 1896; and William Isaac, who was born in January, 1898. The three last named are living at home.

James Walter Sayre was reared at home and educated in the common schools. He early became self-supporting, his first employment being that of a section hand on the Illinois Central Railroad at Blairsburg. At the expiration of three weeks he withdrew from this work and became station helper, devoting his energies to this employment as well as that of towerman and fireman during the succeeding three years. During that period he was devoting his leisure time to a mastery of the telegraph code, and when qualified was appointed operator. He proved efficient and capable in this capacity but his general knowledge of station and railroad work well fitted him for a more responsible position and six months later he received his first appointment as agent. During the intervening years he has been located at Alden, Ackley, Parkersburg, Sinclair, Mona Junction, Webster City, Highview, Gypsum, Fort Dodge, Knierim, Sherwood, Wall Lake, Ells, Deloit and Grable. On the 29th of April, 1910, he was given his present appointment at Blairsburg, where he has since been located. As he is genial, considerate and obliging, Mr. Sayre is not only popular with his fellow employes but is well liked in the community, where he is familiarly addressed by both young and old as "Walter." He is a man of thrifty habits and owns his residence and an additional lot in Blairsburg and a house and four acres of land at Highview, this county.

On the 29th of November, 1900, Mr. Sayre was married to Miss Lennie Grace Forrest, who was born in Illinois on the 25th of May, 1880. She came to Webster City with her parents, Cyrus E. and

Ella (Watson) Forrest in 1896, and there she was reared to womanhood, completing her education in the public schools of that city. She is the second child in order of birth in a family of five, as follows: Bert, who is deceased; John, who resides in California; Benjamin, who makes his home in Mora, Minnesota; and a sister, who is deceased. The mother has also passed away, and the father has since married again and to him and his second wife have been born the following children: Lola, Esther, Clyde and Alvin. Mr. Forrest now makes his home in Anoka, Minnesota.

Mr. and Mrs. Sayre have three children: James Elmer, whose birth occurred at Gypsum April 23, 1903; Melvin Edward, who was born at Highview, this county, on the 20th of February, 1905; and Lucy Opal, who is a native of Blairsburg, her birth having here occurred on February 22, 1911. The boys are both students in the public school.

The family attend the Methodist Episcopal church, in which the parents hold membership. Mr. Sayre is a charter member of the local camp of the Modern Woodmen of America, and he also belongs to the Order of Railway Telegraphers. His indorsement in political matters is accorded the republican party, and while residing at Highview he was appointed postmaster, holding this office for four years. Mr. Sayre is an honest, practical man, a trustworthy employe and a worthy citizen, who adequately meets his responsibilities and fulfills his duties from day to day to the best of his ability, his principles and mode of life exercising an influence which helps to sustain and elevate the standards of the community.

DENNIS MURPHY.

In the history of the agricultural development of Hamilton county, mention should be made of Dennis Murphy, who has resided here for twenty-eight years and is numbered among the county's representative citizens and most capable business men. He was born in County Monaghan, Ireland, in May, 1847, and is a son of John and Anna (Jennings) Murphy, who were also natives of County Monaghan. The family emigrated to the United States in 1849, and in June of that year located on a farm in Lee county, Illinois. The father was a stone mason, and in connection with the cultivation of his fields, also followed his trade, and through his perseverance and unremitting dili-

gence ultimately became one of the substantial agriculturists of the county. He came to America practically empty-handed but he possessed the energy and determination of spirit that form the most essential factor in the acquirement of success, and through his own endeavors attained a position that commanded the respect of his community. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Murphy: Michael, who is engaged in the cement business at Dixon, Illinois; Dennis, the subject of this review; John, deceased; and Bridget, who died in infancy. The two eldest were born in Ireland, and those last named in Lee county, Illinois. Both parents spent their later years in Lee county, where the father passed away in 1897.

Dennis Murphy was only a child of two years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to this country. He received a common-school education, and while still in his early boyhood began assisting his father with the farm work. He remained in Illinois until 1884, when he came to Hamilton county, which has ever since been his place of residence. Mr. Murphy possesses a wonderful capacity for work, which, together with his foresight and business sagacity, has been the secret of his unusual success. His homestead, containing six hundred acres, is located in Williams township, and is one of the best improved and most highly cultivated farms in the county. In addition to it he owns three hundred and sixty acres of land in Rose Grove township, having upon it two sets of improvements, and another tract of one hundred and seventy-six acres, ninety-three of which are in Hardin county and the remainder in Williams township, this county, fully improved. Mr. Murphy's home place is thoroughly modern and is equipped with everything deemed essential to the agriculturist and stockman of the present day. In connection with the cultivation of his fields he makes a specialty of raising stock, and has a fine herd of graded Aberdeen Angus cattle and some registered Percheron horses. He owns two stallions, Ipcuit, No. 79449, and Black Diamond II, No. 72941, and he formerly owned two full-blooded Percheron mares, Mona and Nina. He now has in his possession Flossy, No. 33125, and a young colt that is eligible to registration.

In November, 1869, Mr. Murphy was married to Miss Catharine Fitzpatrick, who was born in Lee county, Illinois, in August, 1851, and is a daughter of Richard and Annie (O'Hare) Fitzpatrick. The parents were both natives of Ireland but in early life they emigrated to the United States and for many years resided in Lee county, where the father passed away. The mother was residing in Dixon, Illinois.

at the time of her death. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Fitzpatrick numbered twelve: Margaret, the deceased wife of James Duffy; Mrs. Murphy; Julia, who married Thomas McVey, and resides in Bureau county, Illinois; Ella, the wife of Edward Reilly, of Dixon, Illinois; John, who died at the age of sixteen years; Carrie, who resides in Omaha, Nebraska; Sadie, who is a resident of Chicago, Illinois; Thomas, who resides in Indiana; and four who have passed away.

Mr. and Mrs. Murphy are also the parents of twelve children: John, who is living in Williams township; Mary, the wife of Edward McCoy, of Rose Grove township; Dennis, of Williams township; Thomas, who lives in Hardin county; Edward and Philip, both of whom are deceased; Michael, who died at the age of eleven years; James, who is a resident of Rose Grove township; and Charlie, Frank, Leo and George, who are living at home.

The family are all communicants of the Roman Catholic church. Mr. Murphy is a stanch democrat in his political views and has for many years been a member of the school board, while he served as township trustee for nine years. He is public-spirited in matters of citizenship and takes an active and helpful interest in everything that will tend to promote the welfare of the community generally, and can be depended upon to give his support and cooperation to every progressive movement. His career should prove an incentive to ambitious young men, as it clearly manifests what it is possible to achieve through the intelligent concentration of energy when directed toward a definite purpose. Mr. Murphy is a man of high principles and incorruptible integrity, and in the attainment of his ends has not found it necessary to sacrifice or betray his friends, his transactions being conducted in the most honorable and upright manner.

WILLIAM HUGH OMSTEAD.

Diligence and determination are features in the life record of William Hugh Omstead, who has attained a creditable position in business circles of Webster City as the treasurer of the Tuscolo Supply & Contracting Company. His advancement in the business world has been gradual, resulting from his developing powers and his recognition and improvement of opportunities. He was born in Woolstock, Iowa, June 27, 1885, and is a

son of J. N. and Mary Belle (Tatham) Omstead, both of whom were representatives of pioneer families of this section of the state. The son in the acquirement of his education attended successively the schools of Woolstock, Webster City, the Ellsworth College at Iowa Falls and the Iowa Business College at Des Moines, being graduated from the last named with the class of 1905. His thorough training qualified him for a responsible position and he secured employment as a clerk in the State Bank of Woolstock, where he remained for two years. He afterward occupied a clerical position in the Iowa National Bank at Des Moines for a year and in 1908 he came again to Webster City, where he spent two and a half years in the employ of W. J. Zitterell. At the end of that time he became associated with the Tuscolo Supply & Contracting Company as treasurer and is still in that connection. The business of the firm is constantly growing and they have a liberal patronage which makes theirs one of the important business concerns of the city.

On the 10th of August, 1908, Mr. Omstead was joined in wedlock to Miss Clara Louise Hunter, the wedding ceremony being performed at Hartley, Iowa. She is a daughter of John and Louise Hunter of Cranbrook, Ontario, the former a building contractor of that place. Mr. Omstead belongs to Webster City Camp, No. 416, M. W. A.; to Elmo Lodge, No. 62, I. O. O. F.; and to Superior Lodge of Rebekahs, No. 378. He is ever loyal to the teachings of these different organizations and he holds membership with the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Omstead is yet a young man, but the principles which he follows and the ability and energy which he has displayed argue well for a successful future in which he will become even more firmly established as a valued, representative and prosperous business man of Hamilton county.

STONE CHARLSON.

For more than forty years Stone Charlson has been identified with the agricultural interests of Scott township, where he owns three hundred and sixty acres of well improved and highly cultivated land. He is one of the pioneers who came to Hamilton county practically empty-handed and through the intelligent concentration of his effort



STONE-CHARLSON AND FAMILY

and unceasing energy has become numbered among the substantial agriculturists and efficient business men of his community. He was born in Norway in 1836 and is a son of Charles and Bertha Charlson, who were natives of the same country and there passed the greater period of their lives. They subsequently emigrated to the United States, and their latter years were spent in Scott township, where they both passed away. They also had one daughter, Mrs. Catharine Knutson, who is residing in Scott township.

The first eighteen years in the life of Stone Charlson were passed in his native land, where he received his education. In 1854, he emigrated to the United States, taking up his abode in Grundy county, Illinois, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits. Sixteen years later, in 1870, he came to Hamilton county, Iowa, which at that time was but sparsely settled, and purchased eighty acres of land in Scott township. He applied himself diligently to the cultivation of his soil, and as soon as his circumstances warranted, increased his holdings by the purchase of an adjoining tract. As the years passed he continued to extend the boundaries of his farm until he now holds title to three hundred and sixty acres of land, all of which is well improved and in a high state of cultivation. One of the most attractive features of his farm is a beautiful grove of pine trees, which he planted during the early period of his residence and carefully tended and today it is one of the finest groves in Hamilton county.

In 1870, Mr. Charlson was united in marriage to Miss Julia Anfenson, a native of Norway, the event being celebrated in Scott township, which he visited on several occasions before permanently locating here. Mrs. Charlson came to the United States in early life with her parents, George and Betsey Anfenson, who passed their latter years in Scott township. The family also numbered two sons and one daughter: Anfen, who is a resident of Scott township; Oren, a veteran of the Union army, now residing at the Soldiers' Home at Marshalltown; and Alice, deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Charlson have been born thirteen children, in the following order: George and Lewis, residents of Scott township; Bert, who lives in Roland, Iowa; Gustave, of Scott township; Eric, who is living on the home farm; Charlie and Austin, also at home; Mrs. Turene Kalvig, a resident of Scott township; Mrs. Bertha Williams, of Ellsworth township; Selma, who is at home; Henry Thomas, deceased; Charles, deceased; and Henry Thomas (2), also deceased.

The family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Scott township, and in politics Mr. Charlson is a stanch republican.

Practically the entire period of the domestic life of Mr. and Mrs. Charlson has been passed in the immediate vicinity of their present home, where they located during the first year of their marriage. Their early experiences were very similar to those of the other pioneers of Hamilton county. They endured innumerable hardships and privations, but they possess the tenacity of purpose and determination which never recognizes defeat and ultimately achieved success. Their latter years are being spent on the farm, which stands as a monument to their long years of thrift and industry, in a residence provided with every modern convenience and bearing little resemblance to the crudely constructed house they first erected here.

FOSTER FURNITURE COMPANY.

The Foster Furniture Company conducts one of the oldest furniture and undertaking enterprises in Webster City, Iowa. The firm is composed of Arch. and William A. Foster, who are entirely responsible for the present flourishing condition of the concern and who have directed its growth along progressive lines of expansion until their partnership has become a significant force in the business development of the city. The senior member of the firm is Arch. Foster, whose birth occurred in Fayette county, Iowa, February 15, 1882. His parents were John Allen and Jessie (McNaught) Foster, both natives of Scotland. The father left his native country for the United States in 1852 and settled in Pennsylvania with his parents when he was twelve years of age. In this state he was reared and educated, and subsequently married in 1865. In the following year he and his wife removed to Iowa, settling in Fayette county, and in this section they are now residing. The father is in the seventy-first year of his age and the mother has already passed her sixty-sixth birthday, being still active and energetic in the performance of her many duties. John Allen Foster has been a prominent agriculturist all during his life with the exception of his four years' service in the Federal army during the Civil war. From 1861 to 1865 he was a member of the Fifth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry and was present at many of the principal engagements of the rebellion. He was wounded in service but did not allow it to permanently interrupt his military career, and was mustered out with his honorable discharge at the close of the war. To Mr. Foster and his wife were born ten children: Allen,

now residing in Fayette county, Iowa; John, whose home is in Clayton county, this state; Bessie, who became the wife of O. E. Finuf and who died March 9, 1902; Thomas, residing in Clayton county; Lizzie, who died in infancy; Belle, who married O. E. Finuf of Buchanan county, Iowa; Robert, who passed away at the age of twelve years; Arch. and William A., whose business enterprise forms the subject of the present review; and Jesse W., now a practicing physician at Lake Preston, South Dakota.

Arch. Foster was educated in the public schools of Arlington, Fayette county, Iowa, and as a boy was active in the work of his father's farm. He remained at home until 1900 and then spent a year in the lumber business in Elkader, Clinton county, Iowa. In 1901 he went to Independence, Iowa, and worked as a clerk in a furniture store in that city for six years. In 1908 he came to Webster City with the intention of establishing himself in business here. He bought out the furniture concern of J. W. Allington and in partnership with T. S. Curtis started in active life for himself, establishing the business under the firm name of Foster & Curtis. In 1909 his brother, William A. Foster, bought out the stock belonging to Mr. Curtis and the firm was reorganized. It has since operated under the present title of the Foster Furniture Company. The firm carries a complete line of modern house furnishings and conducts also an undertaking department, in which the services of Arch. Foster have been very valuable.

On August 29, 1907, Mr. Foster was united in marriage to Miss Evelyn Frances Rodney, a daughter of Mathew Rodney, who was for many years a prominent agriculturist in Buchanan county, Iowa, but who had retired from active life some years previous to his death, November 12, 1902. The mother is still living in Webster City. Mr. Foster and his family reside in a pleasant home at No. 817 First street. In his political affiliations he is a consistent republican and has been county coroner of Hamilton county since January 1, 1911. His fraternal affiliations include his connection with Acacia Lodge, No. 176, F. & A. M., and with Webster City Lodge, No. 302, B. P. O. E. He is also prominent in Webster City Camp, No. 416, M. W. A. He holds membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and his exemplary life has gained him many friends in Webster City.

The business enterprise with which he is connected is located at Nos. 633-635 Second street, and is one of the oldest and most prosperous mercantile concerns in the city. He is actively aided in its operation by his brother and partner, William A. Foster, whose birth

occurred in Fayette county, February 15, 1884. William Foster's childhood was spent in the same surroundings as that of his brother. He was educated in the schools of Arlington and worked upon his father's farm until 1904. In that year he entered commercial life as an employe of a local grocery house and for five years kept up his connection with this occupation. When he came to Webster City he bought out the interest of T. S. Curtis in his brother's enterprise and became a member of the firm known as the Foster Furniture Company.

On August 18, 1909, Mr. Foster was united in marriage to Miss Fern Deming, a daughter of George Deming, a retired farmer of Fayette county, now a resident of Arlington. Mr. and Mrs. Foster reside at No. 633½ Second street and are well known in social circles of Webster City. Mr. Foster has always been a distinct aid in the conduct of the prosperous enterprise with which he is connected. The Foster Furniture Company owes its success to the harmonious relationship existing between the partners in the concern, who are in agreement on all vital questions of business ethics and morality. They have no complex standard of commercial honor, believing in the efficacy of simple honesty and good-will.

CHARLES ARTHUR SANDERS.

Charles Arthur Sanders, purchasing agent in Williams for the S. P. Wadley Company, dealers in dairy goods, was born in West Jersey, Stark county, Illinois, on the 14th of June, 1874, and is a son of Frederick Edwin and Rebecca Ellen (Dancer) Sanders. The father is also a native of West Jersey, and was born in the same house as our subject, his birth occurring on February 16, 1850, while the mother was born in Elmwood, Illinois, on the 10th of May, 1853. They passed the early years of their domestic life in Stark county, coming from there to Hardin county, Iowa, and locating on a farm in the vicinity of the present site of Owasa in the spring of 1881. There the father engaged in agricultural pursuits for many years, but he has now withdrawn from the work of the fields and is a solicitor for the "Iowa Homestead," he and the mother residing in Iowa Falls. They are the parents of the following children: Frank Edwin, who was born on the 18th of March, 1872, and is engaged in farming near Owasa; Charles Arthur, our subject; Cora, who was born November 14, 1876, the wife of Edwin Fromm, of Iowa Falls; Sylvester

Marvin, who was born on the 14th of May, 1878, and is a rural mail carrier at Iowa Falls; Bertram Vincent, who was born October 29, 1879, and died in 1881; Frederick Edwin, Jr., who was born on the 2d of August, 1881, farming in Black Hawk county, this state; Grant Leslie, who was born on April 14, 1885, a member of the senior class in Ellsworth College, where he has been a student for seven years and who also attended the Northwestern University at Evanston, Illinois, for a year, and upon his graduation will engage in school work; Jacob Glenn, who was born on the 29th of November, 1887, printer on the Iowa Falls Sentinel; Ernest, who was born on March 17, 1889, a graduate of the commercial department of the Ellsworth College, of which institution he was a student for three years, now private secretary to the manager of the Columbia River Lumber Company, of Golden, British Columbia; Luverne, who was born on the 19th of April, 1891, and graduated from the Iowa Falls high school with the class of 1911, and is now engaged in teaching in the vicinity of Burdette, this state; Ina May, who was born on the 17th of March, 1893, a member of the Iowa Falls high-school class of 1911, also teaching near Burdette; and Vera B., who was born on Christmas day, 1894, and will graduate from the Iowa Falls high school in 1913. The first five named were born in Illinois and the remainder in Iowa. The paternal grandfather, Sylvester Sanders, was one of the pioneers of Stark county, Illinois.

The education of Charles Arthur Sanders was begun in his native state and completed in the schools of Hardin county. Reared on a farm in common with the majority of country lads he early became familiar with the work and duties of the agriculturist. He remained at home and assisted his father with the work of the fields and care of the crops until he had attained his majority, when he engaged in farming for himself. At the expiration of two years he withdrew from this occupation, and purchased a grocery store at Owassa. About the same time he was appointed postmaster, but a year later his wife was appointed to take his place and he took a rural delivery route. He held this position for seven years and six weeks, and then resigned, and disposing of his store became associated with Walter Schofield in the purchase of a grocery business at Iowa Falls. Nine months later he likewise withdrew from this enterprise and became the local representative of S. P. Wadley Company, and has ever since been in their employ. He purchases butter, eggs, poultry and cream for this company, and some conception of the amount of business they do in Williams can be formed from their April, 1912, record,

which shows that they paid the farmers of this vicinity in that one month eleven hundred dollars for cream and eggs alone.

At Owassa on the 12th of January, 1899, Mr. Sanders was married to Miss Bertha Luella Manley, who was born in Milledgeville, Carroll county, Illinois, January 9, 1879. She is a daughter of George Horace and Eliza Jane (Finfrock) Manley, the former a native of Pennsylvania, having been born in the vicinity of Harrisburg, that state, on November 24, 1830, while the mother's birth occurred in Ohio on January 26, 1840. They came to Hardin county in 1881, and settled on a farm near Owassa, in which place the father established a blacksmith shop which he operated in connection with the cultivation of his fields. Both parents passed the remainder of their lives in Owassa, the mother's death occurring on the 29th of September, 1902, and that of the father on the 11th of October, 1906. The maternal grandfather served through the entire period of the Civil war and is buried in Berlin cemetery near Owassa. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Manley: Clara, who was born on January 1, 1859, the wife of Dr. O. H. Barthel, of Pocahontas, Iowa; Jennie, who was born on December 25, 1860, and died in January, 1861; Willis, who was born on the 16th of September, 1862, a resident of Waterloo, Iowa; Ada N., who was born on the 4th of December, 1864, the wife of Prentiss Ransom, of Owassa; George H., who was born September 30, 1869, residing in Ellis township, Hardin county; Martin Henry, who was born on the 30th of January, 1874, of Santa Rosa, California; Mrs. Sanders; and Maude Mae, who was born on April 7, 1883, a resident of San Francisco, California. All are natives of Illinois with the exception of the last named, who was born in Iowa. They received good educational advantages, Mrs. Barthel, Mrs. Ransom and the son Willis having graduated from the high school at Milledgeville, and Mrs. Barthel was also a student of the college at Mansfield, Ohio. Miss Maude M. Manley upon completing the public-school course spent two years at Ellsworth College, after which she taught for two years and was connected with the Iowa State Industrial School at Eldora, Iowa, for a year. She subsequently graduated from the business college at Santa Rosa, California, and is now employed in San Francisco, that state. Mr. and Mrs. Sanders have one son, George Arthur, who was born in Jackson township, Hardin county, Iowa, on the 9th of September, 1899, and is now a student in the Williams public school.

Fraternally Mr. Sanders is affiliated with Alamo Lodge, No. 547, A. F. & A. M.; and Jungle Camp, No. 1844, M. W. A. He formerly

belonged to the Odd Fellows lodge at Iowa Falls, and while engaged in the mail service he was secretary of the Rural Letter Carriers Association of Hardin county. He has qualified as mail carrier in the city service, but never sought an appointment. The political allegiance of Mr. Sanders is accorded to the republican party, but he has never held any official position save that of postmaster. The course of his business career has been interrupted by various obstacles and misfortunes, which would have completely discouraged a man of less determination of purpose, but he is always optimistic and cheerful. He formerly owned a good residence property at Owasa, but the house was destroyed by fire on December 23, 1908, and he has never rebuilt. Mr. Sanders has many friends in Williams, where he has proven himself to be a man of integrity and good business principles.

ROLLAND W. POTE, D. D. S.

Dr. Rolland W. Pote has for the past five years been successfully engaged in the practice of dentistry at Webster City, with offices at No. 618½ Second street. His birth occurred at Stuart, Iowa, in the year 1885, his parents being Daniel W. and Emma (Perkins) Pote. The father, who was an early settler of Adair county, Iowa, now resides in the town of Stuart, this state. The mother passed away in 1909.

Rolland W. Pote obtained his early education in the public schools of Adair county and subsequently attended the high school at Stuart, from which he was graduated in 1905. Having determined upon the profession of dentistry as a life work, he entered the Iowa State University at Iowa City, which institution conferred upon him the degree of D. D. S. in 1908. Immediately thereafter he opened an office in Webster City and has here remained to the present time, enjoying an extensive and lucrative clientage because of the excellence of his work.

In February, 1910, Dr. Pote was united in marriage to Miss Edna Smith, her father being Lon Smith, a druggist of Stuart, Iowa. They now have a little daughter, Jean, born July 27, 1912. Mrs. Pote is an accomplished musician, being a graduate in music of Drake University and also of the Northwestern University at Evanston, Illinois.

Dr. Pote is a member of the Psi Omega fraternity of the Iowa State University and also belongs to the following organizations: Acacia Lodge, No. 176, A. F. & A. M., of which he is at present junior warden; Hope Chapter, No. 88, R. A. M., in which he serves as scribe; Lodge No. 302 of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; and Webster City Camp, No. 416, M. W. A. He has served as president of the Webster City Country Club since its organization in 1910 and is likewise a valued member of the Congregational church. Courteous, genial and approachable in manner, he easily wins friends, and gains high regard through his personal worth as well as his professional ability.

FRED HAHNE.

The printing business requires for its successful operation a degree of general knowledge which amounts to labor, culture and a technical proficiency in the details of the trade in addition to the executive ability and commercial instinct required for success in any business walk of life. Fred Hahne, proprietor of the printing establishment at No. 547½ Second street, Webster City, Iowa, owes his prosperity to his long period of personal identification with the printing trade and to the progressive and systematic principles, which have always marked his activity. He is a native son of Webster City, where his birth occurred on March 17, 1877. His parents were William and Sarah (DeFrance) Hahne, the former of whom a native of Hanover Germany, whence he came to the United States in 1870, and the latter a native of Tama county, Iowa. They settled in that year in Hamilton county, where they have since resided.

Fred Hahne was educated in the public schools of his native city, and laid aside his books at the age of fifteen years. Since that time he has been identified with the printing trade, becoming acquainted with its different branches. He began his career in the office of the Webster City Graphic in 1892 and was employed by this concern for two and one-half years. He rose in that period of time by his evidence of ambition and desire to better his condition from a humble capacity to the position of foreman of the shop, which he was holding when he severed his connection with the Webster City Graphic in 1894. In that year he entered the employ of the Webster City Freeman and was active and successful in this connection for



FRED HAHNE

one year. He resigned this position to accept the foremanship for the Webster City Journal and after two and one-half years of successful identification with this paper removed to Spencer, Iowa, in the fall of 1898, where he spent a year and a half as foreman of the Spencer Reporter. He was successful here as he had been before in Webster City and gained eighteen months' experience as a valuable asset, when he returned to Webster city in 1899. From that year until 1903 he was active as foreman of the Webster City Journal. In that year he definitely brought to a close his connection with newspaper work in the composing room. His long career had given him a knowledge of the technical details of his business and a self-confidence which has never deserted him since that time. It added to the breadth of his culture and to his general knowledge and was a valuable asset to him in independent business life. In 1903 he established his present enterprise under the name of the Fred Hahne Printing Company. He does a general line of printing, but makes a specialty of pedigreed live-stock sale catalogs and in this department of his enterprise has exclusive rights in Webster City. It is the largest exclusive live-stock catalog printing establishment in the United States and does business for the owners of live-stock sales throughout America. It required for its management and development an executive, whose ability lies along concentrative lines, and these qualities are vital forces in Mr. Hahne's commercial career. He maintains personal control over the large and still expanding business, of which he is the head, and his capacity for detailed organization and his shrewd and discriminating mind make him one of the greatest individual forces in trade circles of Webster City. Moreover he is interested in a number of local manufacturing institutions, which benefit by his sound judgment and commercial ability.

On December 29, 1897, Mr. Hahne was united in marriage to Miss Clara Adams, a daughter of George T. Adams, at one time a prominent agriculturist of Hamilton county, who lived retired in Webster City for some years prior to his death on the 1st of January, 1912, in his seventy-sixth year. Mr. and Mrs. Hahne are the parents of four children: Myron D., born October 29, 1899; Georgianna, whose birth occurred on the 5th of August, 1903; Winifred, born August 8, 1906; and Richard Howard, born February 25, 1912. The family residence is at No. 517 Webster street, Webster City.

Mr. Hahne gives his political allegiance to the republican party and does his duty in political circles with the same energy and conscientiousness which he brings to bear upon the management of his

enterprise. He served his city in various capacities, having been a member of the council from April, 1908, to April, 1910, representing constituents from the old second ward. Since 1911 he has been councilman at large for Webster City and his public service has been distinguished by a broad intelligence and a keen interest in every phase of civic development. He is a member of numerous societies affiliated with the live-stock business. He holds membership in the American Short Horn Breeders Association of Chicago, The American Hereford Breeders Association of Kansas City, The American Aberdeen Angus Breeders and the American Poland China Breeders Associations of Chicago, and is also prominent in the American Chester White Breeders Association with headquarters at Columbus, Ohio. In exclusive fraternal circles Mr. Hahne is prominent, holding membership in Acacia Lodge, No. 176, A. F. & A. M.; Webster City Lodge, No. 302, B. P. O. E.; and in Forest Camp, No. 103, Woodmen of the World. He is also a charter member of the Court of Honor in Webster City. He is a devout adherent of the United Brethren church and is known in Webster City as a man of exemplary private and public character. His business is rapidly expanding and developing into an institution of national scope and his commercial enterprise and ability are progressing with it. He judges his colleagues in the business world by the same high standards of honor and integrity which he has set for himself and by which he moulds his business development, his political activity and his private life.

JOHN VAN WINKLE.

Two hundred level acres of land neatly tiled, fenced, and improved, with modern and sanitary buildings grouped together at irregular intervals, fields productive in many various grains and sloping pastures, well filled with high-grade stock—these are the principal elements in the picture which the Hereford farm presents to the visitor in Fremont township. The owner of this property and the man who is directly responsible for its present flourishing condition is John Van Winkle, who has been connected with farming interests in various sections of America all during his active life. He was born on July 19, 1851, in Luzerne county, Pennsylvania. His father was Oliver Perry Van Winkle, a native of New York, who came to Pennsylvania in his early manhood and was one of the prominent agri-

culturists in that state for many years. He removed to Kewaunee, Henry county, Illinois, in 1862, and followed his chosen occupation in that section. He eventually took up his residence in Lennox, Taylor county, Iowa, and here his death occurred at the age of sixty-five years. John Van Winkle's mother was Irene (Cox) Van Winkle, who died in Lennox, Iowa, when she was seventy-one years old.

John Van Winkle's educational opportunities were extremely limited. He attended school in Pennsylvania and Illinois, but was obliged to lay aside his books at the age of twelve years in order to lend his assistance in the operation of his father's farm. In 1875 he began farming independently in Geneseo, Henry county, Illinois, and remained in that section until he came to Hamilton county, Iowa, in 1884. The condition of his present property attests his success as an agriculturist in Iowa and is the result of his industry and intelligent labor along scientific lines. He purchased two hundred acres in Fremont township on sections 27 and 28 and this property he still owns. It is known as the Hereford stock farm and is one of the model and representative agricultural enterprises in the state of Iowa. It is often shown to visitors as an example of the results to be obtained by farming along modern, economic lines. It has been improved by tiling and fencing and various sanitary and commodious buildings have been erected during the course of years. The fields are divided conveniently by barbed and woven wire fences into divisions planted in various kinds of grain and the arrangement of the buildings has been influenced by conditions of sanitation and neatness of aspect. Seen from a distance the Hereford stock farm presents a beautiful pastoral picture. It has been evolved from raw prairie land and into its development have gone all the energy and work of a progressive and scientific agriculturist.

On March 30, 1875, Mr. Van Winkle was united in marriage to Miss Elinor Doyle, a daughter of Patrick and Elinor (Graham) Doyle, natives of Pennsylvania, who removed to Henry county, Illinois, at an early date. Mrs. Van Winkle's father died December 5, 1879, at the age of seventy-four and her mother's demise occurred on the 6th of October, 1883, when she was seventy-two years of age. To Mr. and Mrs. Van Winkle have been born the following children: Edgar Bert, whose birth occurred March 31, 1877; Delmer C., whose birth occurred April 24, 1882, and who became the wife of Elma Veach, a prominent farmer of Nashua, Iowa, by whom she has one son, Elston; and Roy, whose birth occurred on May 25, 1884,

and who married Miss Grace Maricle, by whom he has two children, Vera and Donald, the former born in 1907 and the latter in 1909.

Mr. Van Winkle is today one of the most substantial and enterprising agriculturists in Hamilton county and one of the most valued citizens of the state of Iowa. Under his supervision and control prairie land has been evolved into a productive farm. No man can serve his state better nor do his duty in a more lasting and useful way.

MARTIN LUTHER McCOLLOUGH.

Martin L. McCollough has been identified with business interests in Webster City since he left his father's farm when twenty-eight years of age. He is today the best known auctioneer in the city and his influence is powerful in various lines of municipal expansion. He was born in Monroe county, Ohio, October 27, 1851, his parents being William and Isabelle (Arnold) McCollough, both natives of Ohio. The father followed the trade of shoemaking and later engaged in agriculture in that state and was a prominent citizen of Ohio until he removed to Iowa in 1866. In that year he settled in Marshall county where he farmed until his death which occurred on December 22, 1896, in the seventy-fifth year of his age. His wife survived him until the 20th of May, 1900, dying at the age of sixty-six years. Mr. and Mrs. William McCollough were devout adherents of the Presbyterian church and were the parents of seven children: George, who married Miss Anna Pyle, and who died in 1886; Martin Luther, the subject of this sketch; James, who resides in Marshall county, Iowa, with his wife who in her maidenhood was Miss Lena Lucas; Laura Belle, who became the wife of Thomas Eaton of Pocahontas county, Iowa; William A., who married Bertha Ritchie, and who resides in Webster City; Oscar, who married Miss Elizabeth Ritchie, and whose home is in Pocahontas county; and Bertram B., who maintains his residence in Webster City.

Martin L. McCollough was reared at home and received his education in the public schools of Marshall county. His father was a prominent farmer in that region and Mr. McCollough spent his early boyhood and youth as an agriculturist. He remained upon his father's property, actively assisting in the labors of

tilling the soil until 1879, when he moved into Webster City and began a career which has made his name prominent in many different commercial capacities. His first business connection was with Ira W. Packard with whom he was associated in the buying and shipping of grain for three years. In 1883 he spent a year at Woolstock buying grain for N. G. Omstead. He returned to Webster City the same year and entered the employ of Frank Brothers as a salesman in their clothing store. This association continued for five years and gained for Mr. McCollough a reputation for keen business insight and true discrimination of values. In September, 1888, he established himself in business in partnership with F. S. Currie under the firm style of Currie & McCollough. They dealt in clothing and men's furnishings, and in the eight years of their business connection established a flourishing and prosperous concern which gradually grew to be one of the largest clothing enterprises in Webster City. In 1896 the partners disposed of their interests in this line of activity and opened a real estate, loan and insurance business which they conducted under the name of Currie & McCollough until 1903. In this year the partnership was definitely dissolved and Mr. McCollough gave his entire attention to his auctioneering business which he had started as a side line twenty years before. Up to this time he had given it very little attention, but when his real-estate business was disbanded he gave all his energies to the reorganization and development of his auctioneering. He subsequently had a sale and feed barn which he at present operates. In 1908 he extended his activities to include a grain business in connection with the two other departments of his enterprise but discontinued this in 1911. Mr. McCollough is a man whose influence is powerful in almost every phase of municipal life in Webster City. He is a director of the First National Bank and has held this office since 1904. He holds a large amount of stock in the Queen Manufacturing Company and is also prominent in political circles. His citizenship is of the high order which is becoming representative of the middle west and his life and activities have been a dominating factor in the civic growth of Webster City.

On November 25, 1875, Mr. McCollough was united in marriage to Miss Frances Shewalter, who was born in Clinton county, Ohio, on October 30, 1846. She is a daughter of John Wesley and Martha J. (Baker) Shewalter, who came to Marshall county in 1858, where the father engaged in agricultural pursuits until

his death in 1871. He was survived by his wife until 1891, in which year her death occurred. Both were members of the Episcopal church. They had six children: Roberta, who married James Evans, of Oakland, California; John, who resides in Chase county, Nebraska; Mary, who became the wife of A. H. Hall, and who resides in Marshall county, Iowa; Clayton, who also makes his home in Marshall county; Edward, who passed away when he was twenty-four years of age; and Frances, the wife of our subject. To Mr. and Mrs. Martin McCollough has been born one daughter, Almeda, whose birth occurred on the 28th of March, 1886, and who married on December 31, 1908, Harry Ambrose, of Webster City, by whom she has one son, Robert, born March 29, 1911.

Mr. and Mrs. McCollough reside at 819 Second street, Webster City, and are well known and popular in social circles. Mr. McCollough gives his political support to the republican party. He has been a prominent factor in local political affairs and gained the recognition of his fellow citizens for ability and efficiency during his service on the city council in 1888. From 1890 to 1896 he acted as supervisor of the county, and in this line of activity was distinguished by the same shrewdness and ability which have marked all the departments of his active career. He has not concentrated upon one line of activity but has engaged in various enterprises, in all of which he has been successful and all of which have been forceful factors in the advancement of Webster City commercially, financially and politically.

CLEMENCE RICKE.

One hundred and twenty acres of excellent land in Williams township is comprised within the well improved farm of Clemence Ricke, whose sound judgment and energy find visible evidence in his growing crops and golden harvests. He was born in Jo Daviess county, near East Dubuque, Illinois, on the 30th of January, 1874, and with his parents came to Hamilton county, Iowa, at which time the family home was established upon a farm four and one-half miles north of Williams. On that place he grew to manhood, his experiences being such as usually fall to the lot of farm lads. He early bore his part in the work of plowing,



MR. AND MRS. CLEMENCE RICKE



MAURINE AND BERYL RICKE

religious faith is that of the Catholic church, while his wife is a member of the Presbyterian church, both being identified with congregations at Williams. A long residence in Hamilton county has made Mr. Ricke well known and his salient traits of character have been such as have brought to him the warm and enduring regard of those with whom he has been associated.

ALEXANDER LINCOLN FOWLER.

Alexander Lincoln Fowler, who has been a resident of Hamilton county for about twenty-nine years, during which period he has been identified with various enterprises, was born near Pawpaw, in De Kalb county, Illinois, April 15, 1862, and attended the rural schools in that vicinity. In 1874 the family moved to a farm four and one-half miles southwest of Manson, Calhoun county, Iowa. Here he assisted his parents on the farm until one year after his marriage, the wedding ceremony being performed about a half mile southwest of Blairsburg, Hamilton county, Iowa, at the home of the bride's parents. He returned to Calhoun county with his bride and a year later came back to Blairsburg, Hamilton county, the young couple being employed on the Eiker farm for eight months. Mr. Fowler cultivated the A. L. McCarthy farm during the following year and has remained a resident of Blairsburg continuously to the present time. After engaging in farming these years he closed out his stock at public sale on the 14th of October, 1891, and purchased the meat market in Blairsburg, which he conducted for one year. He immediately thereafter purchased the barber shop in the above place and successfully conducted this for a period of about fifteen years. In 1905 he was appointed (in the will) administrator of the McCarthy estate and satisfactorily settled the same. He is at present engaged in cultivating his land adjacent to Blairsburg, his home being located in the latter place. His father, Hugh Fowler, was born near Enniskillen, in County Fermanagh, Ireland, and died near Valentine, Nebraska, September 11, 1906, at the age of about ninety-three years. His mother, Jane (Gallagher) Fowler, born near Enniskillen, Ireland, November 28, 1824, died near Valentine, Nebraska, April 6, 1889. They made their home with the son Daniel, at whose home they passed their declining years. They were among the early settlers of Iowa. There were seven sons and one daughter in the fam-



A. L. FOWLER AND FAMILY

ily, as follows: James, who was born in County Fermanagh, Ireland, on the 6th of July, 1847, and is a street car conductor of Sioux City, Iowa; Thomas, born in County Fermanagh, Ireland, on the 3d of June, 1849, who is an assistant in a mission at Rosebud, South Dakota; Daniel, who was born in County Fermanagh, Ireland, on the 20th of January, 1852, and died on the 20th of August, 1906; Henry, whose birth occurred in County Fermanagh, Ireland, on the 14th of April, 1854, and who is residing near Seneca, Missouri; Robert, who was born in Megantic county, Quebec, Canada, on the 14th of January, 1857, and who is now a city mail carrier in Sioux City, Iowa; John, who was born in Megantic county, Quebec, Canada, on the 11th of January, 1858, and who now resides four and one-half miles north of Blairsburg; Sarah (Fowler) Wells, born in Megantic county, Quebec, Canada, on the 6th of December, 1860, who now resides at Pomeroy, Iowa, her husband being a retired farmer of that place; and Alexander Lincoln, of this review.

On the 1st of February, 1883, near Blairsburg, Alexander L. Fowler was married to Elsie Emeline McCarthy, who was born five miles southeast of Wenona, La Salle county, Illinois, on the 1st of April, 1863. She came with her parents to Hamilton county in November, 1872, and with the exception of one year in Calhoun county, Iowa, has been a continuous resident at Blairsburg. The McCarthy family were among the early and most successful settlers of Hamilton county. Abram L. McCarthy, the father of Mrs. Fowler, was born near Decatur, Otsego county, New York, on the 2d of March, 1836, a son of Patrick and Catherine (Cooper) McCarthy, both natives of the Empire state. The father was of Irish descent and the mother of German lineage. Abram L. McCarthy died in Blairsburg, Iowa, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Fowler, Saturday evening, November 25, 1905. His wife, Mary (Mason) McCarthy, was born near Home City, Hamilton county, Ohio, on the 24th of October, 1842, and now resides in Webster City, Iowa. Her grandson, Charles Allen McCarthy, whom she has reared, is living with her. Charles Allen McCarthy, the son of Charles Emery (deceased) and Jennie (McCarthy) McCarthy, was born August 8, 1894, at Blairsburg, Hamilton county, Iowa. Mrs. Fowler's parents were married in Marshall county, Illinois, September 2, 1860. They came to Iowa in November, 1872, and purchased land a half mile southwest of Blairsburg. On the 8th of May, 1900, Mr. McCarthy went to Enid, Oklahoma, invested in real estate there and continued to live there until twelve days before his death. There were nine children born to this

union, as follows: Mrs. Elsie Emeline Fowler; Charles Emery, who was born on the 15th of July, 1865, and died on the 8th of October, 1897; Ella May (McCarthy) Wells, born March 28, 1869, who now resides in Roswell, New Mexico; Walter Sherman, whose birth occurred on the 23d of January, 1872, and who passed away on the 23d of May, 1880; Lois Aline, who was born on the 30th of April, 1874, and died on the 9th of June, 1880; Bertie Burdette, who was born on the 21st of June, 1876, and died on the 14th of May, 1880; Cora Edith, who was born on the 19th of August, 1878, and died on the 8th of May, 1880; Everett Adelbert, whose birth occurred on the 7th of April, 1880, and who now resides in Webster City, Iowa; and Bertha Mary, who was born May 31, 1883, and passed away on the 8th of August, 1899. The four eldest children were born southeast of Wenona, La Salle county, Illinois, the younger ones a half mile southwest of Blairsburg, Hamilton county, Iowa.

To Mr. and Mrs. Fowler have been born two daughters: Pearl Blanche (Fowler) Alford, whose natal day was March 15, 1886; and Mary Jane, who was born on the 20th of November, 1892, and died on the 3d of April, 1895. Mrs. Alford attended the rural and high schools of Blairsburg, graduating from the latter in 1904. She supplemented the same with a term in music at Morningside College, Sioux City, Iowa. She was married on the 3d of February, 1909, to Adolphus Edison Alford, who was born at Mooers Forks, Clinton county, New York, on the 8th of October, 1882, a son of Leslie (deceased) and Elmina Dorcas (Chesbrow) Alford. Leslie Alford was born at Beekmantown, Clinton county, New York, on the 21st of January, 1855. He was a gentleman of American descent and a farmer by occupation. His demise occurred on the 16th of May, 1886, and his remains were interred at Mooers Forks, New York. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Elmina Dorcas Chesbrow, was born at Beekmantown, Clinton county, New York, on the 8th of June, 1857, and is also of American descent. They were married at West Chazy, Clinton county, New York, on the 4th of July, 1877, and became the parents of six children, as follows: Alice Mary, who was born at Mooers Forks, New York, on the 8th of April, 1878; Herbert Franklin, who was born at Mooers Forks, New York, on the 22d of January, 1879, and died on the 23d of March, 1899; Wallace James, whose birth occurred at Saranac Lake, Franklin county, New York, on the 1st of August, 1881; Adolphus Edison, whose birth occurred at Mooers Forks, Clinton county, New York, on the 8th of October, 1882; Bertha Elizabeth, who was born at Mooers Forks, New York,

on the 20th of March, 1884; and Fred Leslie, who was born at Malone, Franklin county, New York, on the 15th of April, 1886. In June, 1892, the mother of this family gave her hand in marriage to J. Griffith, by whom she has two living children, Lorenzo and Frances.

It was in 1890 that Adolphus Edison Alford removed to Cropsey, Illinois, with his mother, brothers and sisters, attending the schools of that place. His parents were farmers in New York. He and his brother Wallace came to Iowa in September, 1906, and together rented a farm four and a half miles southwest of Blairsburg. Mr. and Mrs. Alford own a farm of choice land about three miles north of Blairsburg, with good improvements.

The politics of both families is republican. Both families are members of the Congregational church of Blairsburg. Mr. Fowler united with the Methodist Episcopal church in 1875 and Mrs. Fowler, November 25, 1877, at the organization of the Wesleyan Methodist church at Blairsburg. Both Mr. and Mrs. Fowler remained members of Wesleyan church until the building and organization of the Congregationalists at Blairsburg, which took place in 1891, when at that time they united and have been members ever since, Mr. Fowler now serving as treasurer. For six years he held the office of deacon. He has served as recorder of the town of Blairsburg four years, has served as a member of the board of education in times past and at the election held in March, 1912, was elected again. He has been a member of the town council and is one at the present time. He is held in high regard by his fellow townsmen, as he is a man of good standards and upright principles whose influence is always exerted on behalf of every progressive movement.

PETER W. KEITH.

Peter W. Keith, who engages in the insurance business in Blairsburg, is one of those who valiantly served the Union during the time of its terrible need in the early '60s. He was born in Washington county, Ohio, on the 8th of January, 1842, and is a son of Robert and Anna (Boone) Keith, who were born, reared and married in the Buckeye state. They came to Iowa in 1854, locating in Delaware county. This section of the state was but sparsely settled at that period, which was prior to the advent of the railroad, and the father,

who was quite extensively engaged in buying hogs, used to drive them to Anamosa, the nearest shipping point. He passed the remainder of his life in Delaware county, where he died at the age of ninety years. The mother was fifty-two at the time of her death, which occurred in Keithsburg, Ohio. She was a near relative of Daniel Boone, of Kentucky pioneer fame, and in the maternal line was descended from a long lived family, her mother having passed the one hundred year mark at the time of demise. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Keith numbered five: Sylvester, who died in infancy; W. B., who is a resident of Los Angeles, California; Peter W., our subject; Mrs. Mary Hunt, who died in Kansas City, and John, a locomotive engineer on the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, one of the company's oldest living employes, who will soon be eligible to pension.

Peter W. Keith was a lad of twelve years when his parents settled in Delaware county, where he completed his education and was reared to manhood. During the early period of the Civil war he enlisted in Company G, Sixth Iowa Volunteer Cavalry, remaining at the front for three years, his regiment being in the western army. When mustered out he returned to the home farm in Delaware county, and there engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1878. In the latter year he went to Strawberry Point, where he conducted a hotel for twenty years. During that period he began writing insurance, subsequently devoting his entire time to this business. On the 6th of April, 1911, he came to Blairsburg and has ever since made this place his home. He has here established an office and is the local representative for the Continental, Aetna, St. Paul Fire & Marine, Hawkeye of Des Moines, State of Des Moines and State of Keokuk companies, and is also agent for a number of reliable and well known life insurance companies, and is doing a good business.

Mr. Keith has been twice married, his first union being with Miss Martha Abbey, who was born at Euclid, Ohio, on the 23d of March, 1843, and died in 1902. In March, 1905, Mr. Keith was married to Miss Emma Walsworth, who was born in Adams, Jefferson, New York, on January 25, 1858. She is the elder of the two daughters born of the marriage of John C. and Sybil (Abbey) Walsworth, pioneer settlers of Delaware county, Iowa. The father was born in Adams, Jefferson county, New York, on the 26th of December, 1830, and the mother in Middlebury, Vermont, on April 5, 1830. They came to Hamilton county in 1886, locating on a farm in Blairsburg township, where the father continued his agricultural pursuits un-

til his death, which occurred on January 29, 1900. The mother passed away in 1901. Their younger daughter, Grace, is the wife of Charles Castner, who is mentioned at greater length elsewhere in this work.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Keith belong to the Congregational church, having been identified with this denomination for more than forty years, and she is one of the charter members of the Blairsburg church. Fraternally he is affiliated with Standard Lodge, No. 351, A. F. & A. M., of Waucoma; Mirabeau Chapter, No. 96, R. A. M., of Greeley, Iowa; and Language Chapter, No. 47, R. A. M., of West Union. He is also a member of the Order of the Eastern Star at Waucoma, and Waucoma Lodge, No. 303, I. O. O. F., and he was formerly a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge of Waucoma. He maintains relations with his old comrades of the field through the medium of his connection with Sutherland Post, No. 171, G. A. R., of Waucoma, of which he was commander for ten years. In politics he is a republican, and while residing in Strawberry Point served for four years as postmaster and as justice of the peace for two. He has a very pleasant home in Blairsburg and he also owns a residence property in Waucoma, while Mrs. Keith holds the title to forty acres of well improved land in Blairsburg township. They are both most estimable people and have many friends who accord them the regard and respect due those who represent the highest type of citizens.

CLEMUEL ROBBINS.

Clemuel Robbins now lives in retirement at No. 308 East Dubuque street, Webster City, Iowa, where he is well known as a man whose agricultural activities for many years have been a substantial asset in the upbuilding of county and state. His history extends back to the early days of settlement when most of the farms which are now the pride of Iowa were raw and undeveloped prairie lands. He was born January 5, 1830, in Franklin county, Ohio, his parents being Mathias and Sarah (Couder) Robbins, natives of Pennsylvania. They left that state for Ohio where the father was active in various capacities until his wife's death in 1848. He then moved to Illinois, where he resided until his demise which occurred at the age of eighty-six years and sixteen days.

Clemuel Robbins received his early education in the public schools of Pennsylvania and Ohio. In 1854 he came to Iowa and with three companions walked from Dubuque to Homer in that state in order to enter his claim for one hundred and twenty acres of land. His original intention had been to take up one hundred and sixty acres at the government price of one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre. When he reached Homer, however, he found that some of his money was in bad Kentucky bills and consequently his purchase was limited. When he proved his claim he went to Illinois and in the summer of 1856 again returned to Iowa. He remained in this state for one year but did not make it his permanent home until 1862. In that year he added to his one hundred and twenty acres by the purchase of forty acres adjoining and thus finally completed his original intention of having a one hundred and sixty acre farm. The rise of land values in Iowa made his second purchase of land more expensive than his original holdings. He paid eight dollars per acre in 1862 for land adjoining that which he bought in 1854 at one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre. His farm is all in Freedom township and is one of the prosperous and flourishing enterprises in that section.

When Mr. Robbins had completed his buying of land he immediately proceeded to put his one hundred and sixty acres under cultivation. He broke the prairie, built a house and barn and erected all the necessary outbuildings upon his property. He gave his personal attention and supervision to the tilling of his land and watched its evolution from an undeveloped state into one of the flourishing agricultural enterprises in the state of Iowa. His farming was practical and for that reason produced good results. Iowa land is fertile and rich and if a man is intelligent and industrious he can almost always gain from it a comfortable competency. Mr. Robbins' labors were always along progressive and scientific lines and in 1891 he was enabled to give up the arduous duties incident to the development of his holdings and to move to Webster City where he is now living a retired life among his friends. He still owns his original farm of one hundred and sixty acres and has rented it to his son, William M. Robbins, who is carrying on the operation of the enterprise along the developing and expanding principles which his father instituted.

In December, 1862, Clemuel Robbins was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Royster, a daughter of William and Adeline Royster, who came from Indiana in 1856 and settled in Webster township, Hamilton county. Mrs. Robbins died September 12, 1887. Mr. and Mrs. Clemuel Robbins became the parents of four children. Elmer, whose birth occurred in 1863, was in 1891 married to Miss Alice Butler, a daughter of John F. and Martha Butler, who came to Webster City in 1854 and are now among its oldest living pioneers. Elmer Robbins is a farmer in Freedom township where he now owns two hundred and forty acres of highly developed land. He is the father of three children: Leah M., whose birth occurred in 1893; Ella, born in 1899; and Bessie, born in 1904. The second son of Clemuel Robbins is William M. He was born in 1868 and in 1898 married Miss Estella B. Johnson, a daughter of Jacob W. and Barbara Johnson of Webster township. It is William M. Robbins who is now renting his father's home farm of one hundred and sixty acres and is operating this in addition to eighty acres which he owns in his own right. He is one of the representative and leading citizens of Freedom township and is prominent in fraternal and agricultural circles. He is at present noble grand of Elmo Lodge, No. 62, I. O. O. F., and has been through all the chairs of the Ridgeley Encampment, No. 9, of that organization. He is also a member of Eureka Canton, No. 23, and with his wife belongs to the superior Rebekahs Lodge, No. 378. Susan, the eldest daughter of Clemuel Robbins, in 1896 married Mr. B. C. Letts, a farmer in Freedom township, and she lives in that section with her husband and son, Harold D., born 1902. Nora was married in 1898 to James R. Silver, whose birth occurred in Scotland in 1871. He spent his youth in his native country and came to the United States in 1893, arriving in Iowa in March of the same year. To this union were born three children, Donald Cameron, Ada B. and Alta Catherine. James R. Silver is one of the representative men of Freedom township and is prominent in many lines of activity in that district. He holds membership in Elmo Lodge, No. 62, I. O. O. F., has passed through all the chairs of Ridgeley Encampment, No. 9, and is a member of Eureka Canton, No. 23, of the same organization.

The family of Clemuel Robbins is well known in many sections of Iowa and its name has been prominent for many years in agricultural activities in that state. Mr. Robbins is representa-

tive of a wide class of men who bring to farming a practical knowledge of the details of the occupation coupled with an intelligent and scientific and progressively developing method of work which are rapidly making the state of Iowa one of the most prosperous agricultural regions in the United States.

WILLIAM L. WHITHAM.

William L. Whitham is engaged in the real-estate and insurance business at suite No. 4, Hamilton County State Bank building, Webster City, Iowa. He has an exhaustive knowledge of agricultural values and has sold land in all parts of the United States and Mexico. He is known throughout Hamilton county as a reliable and enterprising business man and has built up an extensive patronage in his chosen line of activity. He was born in 1866, at Elk Grove, Lafayette county, Wisconsin. His parents were William Cameron and Fanny (Brewer) Whitham. His father was born in Philadelphia in 1833 and came to Wisconsin when he was still a young man. He was active and prosperous in the live-stock business and was also well known as a successful auctioneer, until his death, which occurred in 1904, when he was seventy-one years of age. Mrs. Fanny Whitham died in 1896, when she was fifty-four years of age.

William L. Whitham was educated in the common schools of Wisconsin, where he pursued the usual course of study. He supplemented his education by attending the Northern Illinois Normal School at Dixon, Illinois, from which institution he was graduated in 1891. He commenced his business career as a bookkeeper and general manager in a merchandise business at Lead Mine, Wisconsin, and was successful in this field for four years. In 1895 he moved to Webster City, where for eight years he was engaged as a traveling salesman for a Dubuque and also a Milwaukee boot and shoe house. In 1903 he entered upon an independent commercial career by establishing himself in his present real-estate and insurance business. His success has been continuous and rapid since that time and is founded on his well proven integrity and his upright and honorable principles. He makes a specialty of farm lands in various parts of the United States and is an expert judge of their value. He has sold property in nearly all the agricultural states of America and has even extended



W. L. WHITHAM

his activities into Mexico. He also deals in city property and this part of his business is rapidly becoming important.

In 1893 Mr. Whitham was united in marriage to Miss Minnie Frances Cameron, a daughter of John D. Cameron of Montfort, Wisconsin. They have two children: Matred, born in 1895; and Ruby, whose birth occurred in 1897. Both of Mr. Whitham's children are natives of Webster City.

In his political views Mr. Whitham is republican. He is a prominent Mason, holding membership in Acacia Lodge, No. 176, F. & A. M., of which organization he was master in 1909. He is also connected with Hope Chapter, No. 88, R. A. M., of which he is at present high priest. He belongs to Triune Commandery, No. 41, Knights Templar, and is active in the affairs of the Eastern Star order, of which he was worthy patron in 1911. He holds membership in the Congregational church. The family residence is at No. 826 Walnut street, Webster City. Mr. Whitham is well known as a public-spirited man, interested in every movement looking toward civic development and welfare. He is serving his city as a member of the council and has been active in this public office since 1911. He was a director of the Webster City Commercial League and this affiliation afforded him an adequate field for his municipal ideas. He is one of the substantial and valued citizens of Webster City, where his activities have influenced business development. As a real-estate agent he never takes advantage of his patrons and has built up upon the solid basis of commercial honor and morality an enterprise which in its expansion and development is keeping pace with the civic progress and upbuilding of Webster City.

PEARLY SOWERS.

Pearly Sowers is farming eighty acres of land on section 34, Ellsworth township, and is numbered among the successful and representative agriculturists of this district. He is a native son of Iowa, born May 18, 1868, and he has spent his entire life in Hamilton county. His parents, Lindsey and Rebecca E. (Ward) Sowers, were among the earliest settlers in this part of the state, coming to Ellsworth township in the fall of 1856. His father was born in Fountain county, Indiana, December 25, 1833, and died upon his farm in Ellsworth township March 4, 1911. The mother

of our subject was a native of Crawford county, Ohio, born December 12, 1839. Her death occurred upon her husband's farm February 12, 1898. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Lindsey Sowers were eight children: Laura, born June 4, 1863, who died March 26, 1865; Albert, who was born March 25, 1865; Henry, born October 21, 1866, who died May 26, 1867; Pearly, the subject of this review; Mrs. Mary Hughes, who was born February 7, 1871; Guy, whose birth occurred August 1, 1873; Planey, born January 29, 1876; and Charles, whose natal day was May 16, 1878. They were among the early settlers in this section of the state, coming here when there were no groves upon the prairies and no human dwelling between the place of their settlement and the Boone river. They established a home, reared a large family of sons and daughters and were among the most highly respected of the pioneers in Iowa.

Pearly Sowers attended the district schools of his native section and has always been identified with agricultural interests in Hamilton county. The farm of eighty acres which he is now cultivating is one of the fine properties of this section of the state, equipped with modern improvements and intelligently developed in every department. Upon it Mr. Sowers lives in a comfortable and well furnished home, being numbered among the successful and enterprising general farmers.

In September, 1895, Mr. Sowers married Miss Anna Templer, born October 14, 1870, a daughter of Daniel D. C. and Nancy (Ennis) Templer. Her father was born in Schenectady county, New York, May 2, 1838, and went to Hardin county, Iowa, in 1867. Three years later he settled in Ellsworth township where he cultivated a fine farm of one hundred and seven acres on section 15 and thereon resided until his death which occurred October 17, 1897. Mrs. Sowers' mother was born in Princeton, New York, December 8, 1845, and is residing on the homestead in Ellsworth township. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Templer were six children, five of whom are still living: Anna, the wife of our subject; Jane, who is residing with her mother on the home farm and who is one of the most successful school teachers in Hamilton county; Ettie, who is acting as assistant in a photographer's studio in Des Moines; Maggie, who died October 14, 1910; and Camie and Archie, who are associated in the operation of the homestead. Mrs. Sowers before her marriage taught in the Hamilton county public schools and was well known and suc-

cessful in this line. She and her husband have three children: Pearly, Jr., born May 15, 1900; Ruby, who was born April 21, 1902; and Walter, whose birth occurred March 15, 1904. All of the children are attending school in the community.

Mr. Sowers gives his allegiance to the democratic party. His wife is a member of the Congregational church at Jewell. He is well known in this district where he has resided all his life and has won universal trust and good-will by reason of the straightforward and honorable principles which he advocates and to which he consistently adheres.

CHARLES T. SMITH.

The largest clothing house in Hamilton county is operated by the firm of Charles T. Smith & Son at Nos. 609-613 Second street. The enterprise has been intelligently controlled and its policy well directed by Charles T. Smith, its organizer and founder and in the eleven years of its existence has developed into a flourishing business enterprise. Mr. Smith has been connected with the mercantile line in Iowa since he left school and every year of his activity has marked a new stage in his commercial prosperity. He was born on the 3d of August, 1857, at Pennsville, Morgan county, Ohio. Here his father, James Smith, was a prominent merchant for many years. He later moved to Tama City, Iowa, in 1865, and was successful in the general merchandise business in that city until he went to Marengo, Iowa, where he remained for three years. He eventually moved to Mount Vernon, Iowa, where for fifty years he was a representative and prominent citizen. He died here on the 15th of December, 1901, in the seventy-fifth year of his age. Mr. Smith's mother, who in her maidenhood was Miss Ruth King, is still living in Mount Vernon where she is widely and favorably known.

Charles T. Smith was reared at home and was educated in the public schools of Iowa. He later attended Normal College in Mount Vernon and upon his graduation began work in his father's store in that city. He early learned the foundations of a successful business career by the standards of commercial honor and unwavering integrity which characterized his father. He became proficient in the systematic conduct of a mercantile

enterprise and acquired by personal experience the knowledge necessary to insure his future success in his chosen field of endeavor. In 1880 he was taken into partnership by his father and remained in this association for ten years. He subsequently removed to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where from 1890 to 1901 he was well known in the shoe business, the enterprise which he conducted being one of the progressive and representative mercantile concerns of that city. His residence in Webster City began in 1901 when he started in his present business independently. For some time he confined his activities entirely to men's furnishings but subsequently expanded his enterprise along affiliated lines. He added a general shoe department and reorganized his business generally, at this time taking his son into partnership. The firm of Charles T. Smith & Son is now the largest clothing house in Hamilton county and its operations extend beyond the limits of Webster City and influence the commercial development of the state of Iowa.

In 1882 Mr. Smith was united in marriage to Miss Georgia S. Ayres, a daughter of James Ayres, of Dixon, Illinois. Mr. Ayres was a prominent Civil war veteran, who during his term of active service in the Federal army edited a paper giving the war news in a condensed form. He died in 1907 at the age of sixty-five years and is survived by his wife who resides in Dixon, Illinois. The Ayres family is of Scotch descent and trace their ancestors to representatives of the Cameron Clan in that country. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have two children. Harold James, born in 1884 and a graduate of St. John's College, Salina, Kansas, is now a partner in his father's clothing business. He is also prominent in fraternal circles in Webster City, holding membership in Acacia Lodge, No. 176, F. & A. M.; in Hope Chapter, No. 88, R. A. M.; and in the Triune Commandery, No. 41, Knights Templar. He is also a member of Company C, Fifty-sixth Regiment, Illinois National Guards and serves as first lieutenant in that organization. Gladys A., the youngest of the family, was born in 1886. She is a graduate of Mount St. Joseph's College, Dubuque, Iowa, and of the School of Oratory of the Northwestern University of Evanston, Illinois. The family residence is at No. 1219 Prospect avenue, Webster City.

In his political allegiance Mr. Smith is a consistent republican, but beyond casting his vote at each election does not take a personal part in public affairs. His father's family were affiliated

with the Quaker church in Ohio in early times, but Mr. Smith now holds membership in the Episcopal church of Webster City. His only fraternal affiliation is with the Masons, in which organization he holds membership in the Acacia Lodge, No. 176, F. & A. M. He is one of the practical and intelligent business men who are the foundation and support of municipal life in America. His high intelligence and his ambitious mind directed from his boyhood into business channels have influenced his career, enabling him to conduct his commercial enterprise of today with great efficiency.

C. C. NELSON.

C. C. Nelson has many claims to recognition as a man whose past activities have been effective for good and whose present career is useful and worthy. He was among the early settlers in Hamilton county and has witnessed the development of the section and participated in it. He served with distinction during the Civil war and at the present time is one of the prosperous, enterprising and representative farmers of Ellsworth township. He owns eighty acres of choice land in this section and by capable management of his enterprise has gained a place in the front ranks of progressive agriculturists. He was born in La Salle county, Illinois, March 26, 1844, a son of Jonas and Sophia (Olson) Nelson, natives of Norway. His father came to America and settled in Illinois at a time when there were but two log cabins on the site where the city of Chicago now stands. He was twice married. By his first union he had two children: Mrs. Julia Christianson, deceased; and C. C., of this review. He and his second wife became the parents of four children: Mrs. Delia Melberg, of Benton county; Mrs. Josephine Henderson, of Randall; Mrs. Sarah Tgernagel, who resides in Story City; and Martin of Scott township. All the children in this family were born in Illinois with the exception of the last mentioned whose birth occurred in Hamilton county.

Mr. Nelson attended the public schools of his native section and grew to manhood in La Salle county. His early life was spent upon his father's farm and he was still active in its various duties at the outbreak of the Civil war. He enlisted in the One

Hundred and Fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry and was in the First Division Fourteenth Army Corps, serving under Generals Rosecrans and Grant. He participated in the engagements at Chattanooga, Chickamauga and Missionary Ridge, his regiment planting the first flag upon the battlefield at the latter place. At the time of his enlistment he was a member of a regiment of one thousand men and when he was mustered out there were but three hundred and fifty-three of this number surviving. One half of his comrades were captured by the famous John H. Morgan, at Hartford, Tennessee, but were later paroled and exchanged. Mr. Nelson received his honorable discharge at the close of the war and immediately returned to Illinois, where, however, he remained only a short time. In 1866 he came west and located in Hamilton county where he has resided since that time. He is now the owner of eighty acres of choice land in Ellsworth township, constituting one of the finest farms in the district. The improvements which he has made upon his property and the new and progressive standards to which he has steadily adhered have made a model agricultural enterprise and have gained him recognition as a deservedly successful farmer. He lives upon his holdings in a pleasant home, well furnished and supplied with all modern conveniences and accessories and has many friends in Hamilton county, which he has seen develop and progress during his period of residence.

Mr. Nelson was married in Ellsworth township in 1866 to Miss Bertha Tgernagel, a native of Norway. They became the parents of six children: Carl, who is residing in Jewell; Jonas, who makes his home in Ellsworth township; Henry, of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Frank, who is residing in Portland, Oregon; John, also of Portland; and Mollie, who makes her home in Minneapolis. All the children in this family were born in Ellsworth township, with the exception of the eldest son whose birth occurred in Scott township.

Mr. Nelson gives his political allegiance to the republican party and takes an intelligent interest in local affairs. He has served with ability and efficiency as school director and has also held the position of road supervisor. He is the sole survivor of the Civil war in Ellsworth township and is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, of Webster City. He is one of the important and successful citizens of this section of the state and has based his attainments in agricultural pursuits upon ex-

perience and efficiency. In the business activities of his life he has been successful because his methods are practical and his standards of integrity high. He is a valuable addition to the resources of the county in the progressive qualities of his public spirit and is an early settler whose career has been an effective force in local development.

FRANK ALFRED BOYSEN.

The dental profession finds a worthy representative in Dr. F. A. Boysen, whose activities in this line have been successful since he was graduated from the Iowa State University in 1892 with the degree of D. D. S. He was born in Minnesota City, Minnesota, in 1869. His parents, Charles Henry and Francisco (Norton) Boysen, came to Iowa, and established their residence in that state about 1881. His father was a prominent hotel keeper at Dysart, Iowa, and a representative and progressive citizen of that city until his death in 1910 when he was sixty-nine years of age. He survived his wife for two years, her death having occurred in 1908 at the age of sixty-one.

Dr. Boysen is one of a family of four children. He received his early education in the public schools of Minnesota City and carried on his studies in Dubuque, Iowa. When he had completed his high-school course he entered the Iowa State University at Iowa City and was graduated in 1892 with the degree of D. D. S. His professional career began in Dubuque, Iowa, where he established an office and remained for two years, gaining practical experience in his chosen field of activity. He then spent four years practicing at Bellevue, Iowa, and in 1898 came to Webster City where he opened his present business under his own name. In 1900 he was joined by his brother, Harry Alvin Boysen, who is also a dentist with a degree from the Northwestern University of Chicago, from which institution he was graduated with the class of 1897. When Dr. Harry A. Boysen joined his brother they carried on good professional practice in partnership, and following a policy of expansion and development soon had branch offices in six towns in Hamilton county and had also established an office in Wright county. The connection of the two brothers continued for three years, from 1900 until 1903, and gained for both a widespread reputation which has been a valuable aid to them in their separate careers. Since 1903 Dr. Frank Boysen has carried

on the practice of his profession in Webster City independently and his field of activity is extending every year.

On October 24, 1895, Dr. Boysen was united in marriage to Miss Jessamine Lora Ives, a daughter of Adelbert Ives of Iowa Falls, Iowa. Mrs. Boysen is a cultured and well educated woman. She is a graduate of the Iowa State Normal College and before her marriage spent some years teaching. She and her husband affiliate with the Congregational church of Webster City and for six years Dr. Boysen was superintendent of its Sunday school. The office of primary superintendent is now held by Mrs. Boysen who is doing useful work in this field. They are the parents of three children: Mildred Mavis, born July 5, 1896; Norton Ives, born in October, 1899; and Lora Fanny, whose birth occurred on the 21st of July, 1901. The family residence is at 830 Walnut street, Webster City.

Politically Dr. Boysen gives his allegiance to the republican party, but he takes no active interest in public affairs, preferring to give his time and attention to his professional duties. He is prominent in Elmo Lodge, No. 62, I. O. O. F., and also holds membership in Webster City Lodge, No. 72, Purity Rebekahs. His professional career is distinguished by an expert knowledge of the details of his work, technical skill and mechanical dexterity. He is well versed in the science of dental surgery and belongs to the modern and progressive school of practitioners. His increasing patronage attests his success.

EMERY E. ANDERSON.

Emery E. Anderson, who has been identified with the commercial interests of Ellsworth for the past five years, owns and conducts a hardware store which is numbered among the thriving enterprises of the town. He is a native of Illinois, having been born in Kane county, that state, on the 7th of December, 1856, and is a son of Ole A. and Elizabeth (Lakin) Anderson, the father a native of Norway. The father emigrated to the United States in his early life, first locating in Kane county. He subsequently came to Iowa and engaged in farming north of Ellsworth, and there the mother passed away in 1859, and was laid to rest in a cemetery in that vicinity. Later the father married again and removed to Holly, ten miles east of Webster City, where he conducted a tavern for several years. He subsequently



EMERY E. ANDERSON

returned to Illinois, and settled on a farm in Kane county, which had been left to him by his father, and there engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1897, when he withdrew from active work and removed to Elburn, Illinois, where he now lives retired.

Emery E. Anderson was only a child when his parents removed to Hamilton county, where he was reared to manhood, obtaining his education in the common schools. After laying aside his text-books he turned his attention to commercial activities and for three or four years thereafter was employed in the general store of Morrison & Sibley. He then went back to Illinois, and during the succeeding ten years clerked in a general store in Elburn. Later he went to Chicago, where he clerked for a time, coming from there to Story county, Iowa, accepting a position in a store at Colo. He subsequently purchased a farm and for four years thereafter devoted his entire time and energies to its further cultivation and improvement. At the expiration of that period he sold his place and returned to Elburn, Illinois, and went into the implement and manufacturing business. After being so identified for several years he sold out and accepted a position with the Walter A. Wood Harvester Company, remaining in their employ for five years. He next went on the road as traveling salesman for the Deering Harvester Company, but he resigned this position at the end of five years and purchased a farm in Brule county, South Dakota, which he operated for four years. On May 1, 1907, Mr. Anderson once more became a resident of Ellsworth, and has ever since made this his home. When he first returned he became associated in the hardware business with his cousin, but twenty-one months later he purchased his partner's interest and has ever since conducted the enterprise alone. Last year, 1911, he erected the building he now occupies, which is thoroughly modern and especially adapted to the particular needs of his business. He carries a large and well assorted stock of shelf and heavy hardware, invoicing eight thousand dollars, and is enjoying an excellent patronage. He is progressive and enterprising in his methods and in the conduct of his business strives to please and accommodate his patrons, believing that the best mode of advertising is through well satisfied customers.

Mr. Anderson has been twice married, his first union being with Miss Hattie Moore on the 24th of November, 1881. She was a daughter of John O. and Sarah A. (Cox) Moore, the father a native of Pennsylvania and the mother of Tennessee. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Anderson: Chime I., who is a farmer in Oregon; Earl G., who passed away in 1901 at the age of sixteen years;

and Welcome H., the wife of Belvin Ellis, a resident of Academy, South Dakota. The wife and mother passed away in January, 1905, after a brief illness, and on the 19th of November, 1911, Mr. Anderson was married to Mrs. Fanny Christian, a daughter of Alonzo and Martha (Goldsbury) Garrison.

Mr. and Mrs. Anderson affiliate with the Congregational church, and fraternally he belongs to the Masonic lodge of Chamberlain, South Dakota; the Independent Order of Odd Fellows; and the Modern Woodmen of America, of Ellsworth. Politically he is a republican, giving his allegiance to the progressive faction of that body. Mr. Anderson is very active and enterprising and is recognized as one of the representative members of the commercial fraternity of Ellsworth. Together with A. B. Staples he owns and operates a large skating rink, thirty-six by one hundred and eight feet, which is one of the town's well patronized and popular places of amusement. He is public-spirited in matters of citizenship and takes a personal interest in forwarding the development of the town by giving his cooperation to every progressive movement.

C. A. DICK.

The name of C. A. Dick is well known in business circles of Webster City and is a synonym in that community for honorable and upright methods and for an unblemished personal integrity. Mr. Dick is now the proprietor of a prosperous notion business located at No. 603 Second street, and his rapidly advancing success is the reward of well directed energy along useful lines. He was born in Coles county, Illinois, in 1860, and has made this section of the state his home since that time. His parents were Solomon B. and Julian (Kearns) Dick. The father was a native of Kentucky, being born in that state in 1822. When he was five years old he moved with his parents to Illinois, where he married and resided for some time. In 1864 he established his residence in Hamilton County, Iowa, and was a representative and prosperous agriculturist of that section until he retired from active life and moved to Webster City, where he is now residing in the ninetieth year of his age. His wife passed away in 1895, when she was sixty-seven years old. They were the parents of eleven children: John; Mary, who is now deceased; Jacob; Martha;

Rebecca; Rosetta, who has also passed away; Chester; Charles A., the subject of this sketch; Horton; William; and Oscar. Solomon B. Dick is a member of the Presbyterian church of Webster City and has been for many years active in religious circles.

C. A. Dick was educated in the schools of Hamilton county and his early youth was spent upon the farm. In 1882 he became identified with the hardware and implement business at Stanhope, Iowa, and was successfully engaged in commercial enterprises until 1889, when he moved to Webster City. For six years he operated a prosperous drug business under his name and did not abandon this occupation until 1902. In that year he started his present notion concern and has developed it along modern business lines since that time.

In 1888 Mr. Dick was united in marriage to Miss Cora E. Lane, a daughter of Richard Lane, of Hamilton county, who farmed in that section from 1867 until his death in 1884. Mr. Lane was a veteran of the Civil war and a prominent figure in the councils of the Grand Army of the Republic. To Mr. and Mrs. Dick have been born three children: Myrtle M., whose birth occurred in 1890; Jay, born in 1892; and Charles Harold, born in 1902. The family reside at No. 1305 Seneca street.

In his political affiliations Mr. Dick is a democrat, but his attention is absorbed by his growing business and he gives very little active attention to public affairs. He is a member of Elmo Lodge, No. 62, I. O. O. F., and is well known in the affairs of the Christian church of Webster City. His business career, like his private life, is marked by honorable activity in all its branches and by a thoroughly broad and intelligent liberality which is the distinguishing quality of his character.

PETER ZEIHAN.

Peter Zeihan, who is devoting his time and attention to general agricultural pursuits and the raising of stock in Independence township, is one of Hamilton county's highly promising and enterprising young farmers. He is a native of this county, his birth having here occurred on the 15th of September, 1881, and a son of John and Catherine (Young) Zeihan, natives of Germany. The parents emigrated to the United States in their early life and were married in

Wisconsin, where they resided until 1875. In the latter year they came to Iowa and settled in Webster City, which was their place of residence for about two years, Mr. Zeihan being employed in one of the construction crews of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad. They were thrifty and enterprising and from his meager earnings managed to save enough money to purchase twenty acres of land in the vicinity of Webster City. He subsequently disposed of this and invested the proceeds in eighty acres of partly improved land in Hamilton township. The cultivation of this proved so remunerative under his capable management that he was later able to extend the boundaries of his farm until he held the title to three hundred and twenty acres. He passed away in 1894, at the age of fifty-five years, but was survived by the mother, who continued to live on the homestead for fifteen years and during that period increased her holdings by the purchase of a quarter section of land in Hamilton township. She left the farm in 1909 and went to Eagle Grove to reside, but two years later she returned to Webster City, where she died in 1911, at the age of fifty-nine.

Peter Zeihan, who was a youth of thirteen years when his father died, was the fourth in order of birth in a family of seven. He was educated in the common schools and remained at home assisting his mother with the cultivation of the farm, until he was married at the age of twenty-nine years, when he began farming for himself. He is a man of energetic methods and practical ideas and has met with more than average success in his undertakings. His home farm contains one hundred and sixty acres located on section 15, Independence township, all of which is fenced hog tight and has been extensively improved. It is all tiled and one hundred and forty acres have been brought to a high state of productivity. In addition to his homestead he owns one hundred and twenty acres in Boone township, making his holdings aggregate two hundred and eighty acres, all of which he is cultivating, his principal crops being corn, oats and hay. In connection with general farming Mr. Zeihan also engages in stock-raising, which is netting him gratifying returns. Mr. Zeihan is residing on his farm in Boone township one mile east of Webster City.

On the 28th of September, 1910, Mr. Zeihan was married to Miss Addie Moose, a daughter of Joseph and Emma (Feuerstein) Moose, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Ohio. They were married in Illinois and continued to reside in that state until the spring of 1908, when they came to Iowa, locating in Fre-

mont township, this county, where they still reside, the father having attained the age of fifty-three and the mother fifty-two years. Mrs. Zeihan is the fourth in order of birth in a family of five, and is a native of Illinois, her birth there occurring on May 22, 1889.

In politics Mr. Zeihan gives his support to the democratic party and is now serving as a member of the school board. His fraternal relations are confined to his membership in the Knights of Columbus, and both he and his wife are communicants of the Roman Catholic church of Webster City. He is highly respected in Independence township, where he has proven to be not only diligent and enterprising but efficient and capable, and is meeting with well deserved success in his undertakings.

JOHN WEHRHEIM.

The record of the pioneer settlement and agricultural development of Hamilton county contains no more honored name than that of John Wehrheim, who came to this section when it was an unbroken prairie and developed and improved from a tract of raw land one of the finest farms in his township. He was born in Randolph county, Illinois, August 12, 1843, and is a son of Conrad and Mary Wehrheim, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Illinois. The mother of our subject died in Randolph county, Illinois, in 1845, and some time afterward Conrad Wehrheim was again married. To this union were born the following children: Mrs. Phoebe Jane Madden, deceased; Mrs. Emaline Hickey, of Denver, Colorado; Mrs. Virginia Ryan, who has passed away; Julia and Frank, both deceased; Lyman, who resides in Strawberry Point, Iowa; George, who makes his home in Clayton county, in the same state; and Conrad, who has passed away. The elder children in this family were born in Illinois and the younger ones in Clayton county, Iowa. All were reared and educated in the latter state.

John Wehrheim remained in his native state until 1845 and then came to Clayton county, Iowa. About 1870 he first made his home in Hamilton county, settling in Clear Lake township. In the following year he came to Hamilton township, where he has resided since that time. In 1861 he enlisted in the Union army as a member of Company C, Thirteenth Iowa Volunteer

Infantry, and was mustered in at Dubuque. After serving nine months he received his honorable discharge and returned to Clayton county, where he engaged in farming until his removal to Hamilton county. Here he found nothing but a broad, unbroken prairie, sparsely settled and entirely undeveloped. With no resources beyond his unfaltering industry, his perseverance and progressive enterprise, he set to work to make his fortune from the soil. Acre by acre he brought his land under the plow and planted it in suitable grains. His energy was rewarded by abundant harvests and as his financial prosperity increased buildings were erected, more land tilled and adjoining tracts added, until at one time Mr. Wehrheim owned six hundred acres of the finest land in the section. At the present time he has four hundred acres in a high state of development. That he has accomplished his early ambition is evidenced by the excellent condition of his farm. Where once was an untilled waste there are now fertile fields, fine farm buildings and everything which goes to make a model agricultural property, and the poor young man of a quarter of a century ago is one of the most successful and representative farmers of Hamilton county.

In Clayton county, Iowa, October 6, 1866, Mr. Wehrheim married Miss Mary Ann Swift, who was born in Wisconsin in 1844. She came with her parents to Clayton county in 1864 and afterward removed to Boone, Iowa, and thence to Hamilton township, Hamilton county, where her family have since resided. Her father, John Swift, was born in Ireland and died in Hamilton township, at the age of seventy. He married Miss Ellen Murray, also a native of the Emerald isle, who passed away in this section when she was eighty-two years of age. Both were among the earlier settlers in this section of the state. In their family were nine children: Mary A., the wife of the subject of this review; Mrs. Ellen Transue, of Sioux City, Iowa; Margaret, who makes her home with her sister, Mrs. Wehrheim; Hugh and William, who live in Jewell; James and Michael, both deceased; Edward, who resides at Estherville, Iowa; and Peter, a resident of Palo Alto county in the same state.

To Mr. and Mrs. Wehrheim have been born twelve children: Conrad, whose birth occurred in Clayton county and who is residing in Rose Grove township; John Francis, also born in Clayton county, who lives near Dows, Iowa; Simon, a native of Hamilton county, residing near Peterson; William, who lives at Eagle

Grove, Iowa; George, of Alden, Iowa; Michael, who is farming near Woolstock; Sylvester, who makes his home at Jewell; Valentine and Lawrence, twins, who are assisting their father with the work of the farm; Mrs. Mary Urell, of Minnesota; Mrs. Jennie Hollihan, of California; and Mrs. Lucy Brown, also of California. All the children born to Mr. and Mrs. John Wehrheim have had the advantage of excellent educations. Jennie and William attended Jewell College in Jewell, Iowa. Michael and Sylvester took a complete course at the college at Waterloo and Simon completed the usual course of studies in Humboldt College. Too much cannot be said of the faithful aid which Mrs. Wehrheim has given to her husband in the development of his success. In every way possible she has supplemented his efforts, managed the affairs of the household economically and has been his greatest aid in the accumulation of the fortune which places him among the most wealthy farmers in the section. Her children have been reared by a wise and kind mother and have never been denied the advantages or the comforts and luxuries of life.

Mr. Wehrheim is progressive in his political beliefs and has always taken an active interest in the affairs of his community. He has served as township trustee and school director for ten years and has done able and competent work in both capacities. He has also served as road supervisor. In community affairs affecting the material, political or moral progress of the section he has always been prominent and is recognized today as one of the loyal and public-spirited citizens of Hamilton county.

M. J. MATTICE.

M. J. Mattice, for ten years a practitioner at the Webster City bar, during which period he has made continuous progress, was born here February 18, 1874, a son of John W. and Emmaretta (Van Bramer) Mattice. The father arrived in Hamilton county when this was a pioneer district in which the work of development and improvement had scarcely been begun. With the business interests of the county he became closely and prominently identified. He became a stock and grain buyer and his operations in that line were quite extensive, and also engaged in banking and subsequently served as president of the Farmers National Bank. He died in California

in 1888, at the age of forty-two years. He is survived by his widow, who is a resident of Los Angeles, California.

M. J. Mattice mastered the elementary branches of learning in the public schools of Webster City, and in private schools in California, to which state he removed when thirteen years of age. He subsequently entered for professional training Drake University at Des Moines and was graduated therefrom with the class of 1902, the degree of LL. B. being conferred upon him. His training was thorough and established him so well in his profession that he secured immediate admission to the bar upon examination before the supreme court. He then returned to Webster City, where he has since engaged in practice.

In September, 1906, Mr. Mattice was married to Miss Blanche Russell, a daughter of D. D. Russell, of Reedsburg, Wisconsin, and they reside at No. 925 Water street.

ANDREW JACKSON FRAKES.

Although he is now residing in Wright county, Andrew Jackson Frakes was for many years actively identified with the agricultural development of Hamilton county, which was his home during his youth and early manhood. He was born in Logan county, Illinois, May 7, 1840, but at the age of thirteen years he accompanied his parents on their removal to Iowa. They located in Hamilton county, where the father entered a half section of government land which he cultivated during the remainder of his active life.

The education of Andrew Jackson Frakes was begun in the schools of his native state and completed in those of Hamilton county. At the age of twenty-two years he enlisted in Company K, Thirty-second Iowa Volunteer Infantry and remained in the service for three years. He was taken prisoner at the battle of Pleasant Hill, April 9, 1864, but his parole was effected two months later and he was exchanged February, 1865. Shortly thereafter he was seriously wounded in the left leg and was sent to the Marine hospital where he was retained for three months. The wound sustained was so serious as to cripple him practically for life and in consequence he has been a sufferer therefrom to this day. At the expiration of the three months in the hospital he was given a three-months furlough and returned home, and while here he bought some land in Hamilton county. He



A. J. FRAKES AND FAMILY

was mustered out on August 23, 1865, and upon his return home immediately began cultivating and improving his farm, upon which he located after his marriage. Three years later he sold this place and bought another farm in the county, which he cultivated for ten years. At the end of that time he likewise disposed of it and removed across the boundary line into Wright county, and bought a half section of land. Mr. Frakes cultivated the latter place until 1898, when he withdrew from active work and removed to Woolstock, where he bought a residence and has ever since lived retired.

Soon after returning from the war Mr. Frakes married Miss Mary Calkins, of Hamilton county, and they were the parents of twelve children, seven of whom are living and five married. In order of birth they are as follows: Anna M., who became the wife of A. Baine; Hattie E., who married F. A. Doolittle; William W.; Andrew J., Jr.; Fannie, who is the wife of James Pierce; and Charles A. and Walter C.

Mr. and Mrs. Frakes are members of the Baptist church at Woolstock, and fraternally he is affiliated with the Webster City Post of the Grand Army of the Republic. His political allegiance is given to the democratic party. Both Mr. and Mrs. Frakes enjoy a wide and favorable acquaintance among the citizens of Hamilton county, where they resided for many years and have a large circle of stanch friends.

CHARLES F. HAMMER.

Charles F. Hammer is numbered among the representative and public-spirited citizens of Webster City, Iowa, where he is now living retired after an active and honorable life spent in agricultural pursuits and in mercantile enterprises. He owes his success to his personal ability and energy. He started in life as a poor boy and has been guided in the expansion and development of his career by many outside influences. At seventy-eight years of age he has laid down the implements of his labor and is living among his friends in a happy and dignified old age. He is a native of Germany and his birth occurred in the province of Wurtemberg, in 1834. His parents, Fred and Christina (Meyer) Hammer, came to the United States in 1854 and settled in Houston county, Minnesota, where the father spent his youthful and active life as an agriculturist.

Mr. Hammer received an efficient education in the public schools of his native county and remained in Germany until he was twenty years of age. He learned the details of farming and of the general merchandise business before he came to America and had already determined upon developing his career along one of these lines before he settled in Minnesota. He remained in the latter state until 1871 when he went to Gallatin, Missouri, where he established an independent dry goods and clothing business. His commercial career was distinguished by honorable, sagacious and high-minded methods and the ten years which he spent in Gallatin were rewarded by financial success and by the respect and esteem of his fellow citizens. When he came to Webster City in 1881 he still continued his identification with the dry-goods business and became associated with his father-in-law in a large mercantile enterprise under the name of Hammer & Altmeyer. The copartnership was continued until 1899 and the energies and activities of Mr. Hammer resulted in the upbuilding of a flourishing and progressive enterprise. He continued his connection with the dry-goods business until 1899, when the stock of the concern was sold and Mr. Hammer retired from active life. He had always been keenly interested in the agricultural development of the state of Iowa and was actuated by a firm faith in its future prosperity along this line. With the judicious discrimination which always distinguished his investments Mr. Hammer in 1895 bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Blairsburg township, six miles from the town seat. He paid for his property thirty-one dollars per acre and held it until 1910. During this time he received a large income from the rent of his land and eventually sold it for one hundred and twenty-five dollars per acre. He always regarded this as an evidence of the rapid rise of land values in Iowa and as a prophecy of the future prosperity of the state.

Mr. Hammer has been thrice married. In 1867 he wedded Miss Mary Altmeyer, whose death occurred in 1872. In the following year Mr. Hammer was united in marriage to his first wife's sister, Miss Rachel Altmeyer and their married life continued until her death in 1903. In 1904 occurred Mr. Hammer's third marriage. He wedded Mrs. Emma Hyatt, the widow of Judge Hyatt, a prominent politician and lawyer of Webster City, by whom she had one son, who is now residing in California. Mrs. Hammer gives her allegiance to the Christian Science church and is a practitioner in that organization. Mr. Hammer keeps his religious views independent and liberal and acknowledges the right of every man to think for himself.

His life was representative of the conservative German idea of unwavering and conscientious activity. With him retirement has not meant a mere quiescent waiting for the final summons. It is rather a pause after the heat of a struggle, a rest after a well lived life and a leisure for enjoying the advantages of intercourse with his many friends.

PETER TODNEM.

Farming interests in Hamilton county, Iowa, owe much to the life and activities of Peter Todnem, who, during the course of his life in this section, was one of the foremost factors in its agricultural development. His death, which occurred upon his farm in Liberty township, Hamilton county, in 1892, was the occasion of deep and widespread regret, and brought a distinct loss to the community in which he lived. He was born in Norway in 1851. His father, Olson Todnem, was also a native of that country and came to America at an early date. He followed farming in Liberty township and died in this section. His wife was in her maidenhood Miss Carrie Skilbred, also a native of Norway. She is still residing in Liberty township at the age of eighty years. Seven children were born to their union, only one of whom still survives, namely, Mrs. Olena Holt, of Liberty township.

Peter Todnem came to America in 1873 and first located in Illinois where he was prosperous as a general farmer for seven years. His residence in Hamilton county dates from 1880, in which year he settled in this section and rented a tract of land which he improved and developed. He soon had his acres under cultivation, and increasing harvests every year rewarded his energy and enterprise. He saved his money, and by thrift and industry secured a sufficient sum to purchase a tract of eighty acres in Liberty township upon which he moved. Until the time of his death he never abandoned personal activity in the development and expansion of this enterprise. He planted his soil in the most suitable grains, fenced his fields and constantly improved and developed his land along modern agricultural lines. After Mr. Todnem's death the family acquired by purchase eighty additional acres, making one hundred and sixty now devoted to general agriculture.

In 1875 Mr. Todnem was united in marriage to Miss Inger M. Hofland, who was born in Norway and is at present residing on the old home farm in Liberty township. Her parents were born in Norway and died in that country. Of the ten children born to their union three are still living: Mrs. Hannah Knutson, who resides in Norway; Mrs. Mary Todnem, of Canada; and Mrs. Todnem, the widow of our subject. To Mr. and Mrs. Todnem were born nine children, four of whom died in infancy. Those living are: Ole, a resident of Minnesota; Benjamin, who is living at home; Carl C., who also resides upon the home farm; Albert, of Minnesota; and Mrs. Martha Olson, a resident of Williams, Iowa.

In his political views Mr. Todnem was a consistent republican, and although he never sought public office was always intelligently interested in local affairs and active in promoting the welfare and progress of his section. His widow holds membership in the Norwegian Lutheran church of Rose Grove township. The usefulness and value of the life of Peter Todnem is readily discernible. He was a man of intelligent public spirit and comprehensive grasp of the modern trend of agricultural conditions, and his activities as a farmer, centralized and directed by business discrimination, were a controlling factor in the growth of his section.

HENRY R. DODGE.

Henry R. Dodge has gained success as a business man and by reason of the honorable and upright policy which he has always maintained in his identification with the partnership of Dodge & Baker, marble and granite workers, has attained a reputation in Webster City as a representative factor in its industrial development. He was born in New Boston, New Hampshire, in 1846, and is a son of Israel and Priscilla (Andrews) Dodge. His father's family were early settlers in Massachusetts, representatives of the line having been prominent in that state since 1629. The first American of the name, Solomon Dodge, the great-grandfather of our subject, was a first lieutenant of a Massachusetts regiment during the Revolutionary war and he it was who founded the family in New Hampshire. On the maternal side Mr. Dodge comes of early Massachusetts stock. His maternal grandfather was a captain of an American privateer during the Revolution and afterward maintained his residence in Ver-

mont. The Dodge family was founded in Webster City, on October 2, 1869, by the parents of the subject of this review. His father was extensively engaged in agriculture in Hamilton county for a number of years and died in that section in 1908 in the eighty-eighth year of his age. He had long survived his wife who passed away in 1882 at the age of sixty-two.

Henry R. Dodge received his early education in the public schools of New Hampshire and later received an academic course in that state. Even before his removal to Webster City he started in active life for himself as an agriculturist in his native state. When his parents removed to Hamilton county Mr. Dodge accompanied them and taught school near Webster City until 1880. He met with a gratifying measure of success in this line of activity but eventually abandoned it to form a partnership with J. A. Viquesney in the granite and marble monument business. This association existed for one year and in 1882 the partnership was dissolved. In the same year Mr. Dodge, in conjunction with Mr. G. W. Baker, established his present enterprise under the name of Dodge & Baker, and the association in the monument business is today the oldest copartnership in Hamilton county. They have kept exclusively to their original line and have always specified in high-grade monuments and granite work.

In 1875 Mr. Dodge was united in marriage to Miss Galatea Jenkinson, a daughter of Jesse and Mary (Funk) Jenkinson of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Dodge resided in the latter state until her mother's death and was brought when a child of six years to make her home with her aunt, Mrs. Margaret (Funk) Entriken, who established her residence in Webster City in 1872. Mrs. Dodge's father died two years later in 1874. To our subject and his wife have been born eight children: Jessie, who became the wife of Mr. C. O. Barr of Webster City; Warren B., who married Miss Mabelle Joy, and who makes his home in Webster City; Bayard, born in 1888, who resides in the same place; John F., whose birth occurred in 1894; Almon V., born in 1886, and who passed away in 1889; Acis J., born in 1876, and who died in 1882; Earl E., who was born in 1883, and whose death occurred in 1884; and Emma, who was born in 1892 and died in 1910. The family reside at No. 717 Walnut street, Webster City.

Fraternally Mr. Dodge is active in the Order of Odd Fellows, holding membership in Elmo Lodge, No. 62, of which he is past

grand, and a member of Ridgeley Encampment, No. 9, of the same organization. His success has been won by indefatigable and unwavering promotion of worthy principles in his life and has been attained at the expense of hard work and industry. He is a business man of marked ability and shrewd discrimination combined with a high standard of civic conscientiousness. Mr. Dodge is representative of the spirit of industry which upbuilds our American municipal life, spreads our commerce and makes us great among commercial nations.

THOMAS E. PEDERSON.

Thomas E. Pederson, who in partnership with his brother, Peter, is conducting a modern blacksmithing enterprise in Randall, is representative in all his activities of high business standards and excellent qualities of citizenship. In achieving the prosperity which has come to him he has been aided by a natural mechanical ability, by long personal experience and by his unusual energy and determination. He was born in the section where he now lives on January 2, 1889, a son of Thomas G. and Ellen (Moe) Pederson, natives of Norway. His father was born July 8, 1851, and came to America in 1881, landing in this country July 2d of that year. He journeyed westward, staying for a short time in Illinois, where he followed the carpentry trade although he had been a blacksmith in his native country. In 1887 the family moved to Randall where the father purchased a blacksmith shop which he continued to operate until 1906 when he sold the business to his eldest son, Peter. He and his wife were the parents of the following children: Peter G., who was born in La Salle county, Illinois, October 15, 1881, and who is associated with the subject of this sketch in the general blacksmithing business in Randall; Anna, whose birth occurred March 1, 1883, and who is residing in Randall; Julia, who was born September 19, 1884, and who makes her home in the same section; John, whose natal day was August 26, 1885, and who makes his home in Randall; Thomas E., the subject of this sketch; Henry, who was born May 7, 1896, and who died June 26, 1896; and Alvina, whose birth occurred June 8, 1900, and who also makes her home in Randall. The three youngest children were born in Randall and the older ones in La Salle county, Illinois.

Thomas E. Pederson was reared at home and attended the Randall public schools. When he was twenty years of age his brother took him into partnership in the conduct of the rapidly expanding blacksmithing business which his father had founded and since that time the two brothers have worked harmoniously and have achieved distinct and substantial success. They do general blacksmithing, woodworking and horseshoeing. Both are natural mechanics and have by industry and intelligent activity made their business grow into one of the most important enterprises of its kind in this section of the state.

Mr. Pederson gives his allegiance to the republican party but has never been active as an office seeker. He is a devout adherent of the Norwegian church. He makes his home with his parents who own one of the most pleasant and comfortable dwellings in Randall. He has many friends in this city where he has spent his entire life. He is always active in his support of movements for the general growth and advancement and is intelligently interested in the affairs of his native city. Honorable, broad, liberal-minded, and never mercenary, he has always made financial attainment secondary to the methods by which it is achieved, and thus in gaining wealth and prosperity for himself he has influenced the general welfare only for good.

C. A. RODINE.

C. A. Rodine is the junior member of the prosperous mercantile company operating under the firm name of Peterson, Rodine & Co., located in Stratford, Iowa. He was born July 22, 1881, and is a son of C. O. and Augusta (Swanson) Rodine, both of whom were natives of Sweden. The father emigrated to America with his parents who located first at Des Moines. He reached the shores of the new world when he was a boy of fourteen years and shortly after his father established his family at Des Moines, he went to Boone and there took up work in the hardware store owned and operated by Crary Brothers, remaining in the employ of that firm until 1881. In that year he came to Stratford, Iowa, and erected a building and engaged in the hardware business in partnership with Crary Brothers. He continued in that business until 1886, after which he purchased a farm near Stratford and upon that property he moved

and was engaged in the cultivation of his land until 1889, when he rented the place and returned to Stratford. He then, in company with O. F. Swanson, opened a general mercantile store, with which he was identified until 1898, when he sold out and lived a retired life until the time of his death, which occurred January 13, 1900, at the age of forty-six years. The mother is still living at the age of fifty-two.

C. A. Rodine was reared at home and received his early education in Stratford. As a young man he was employed in a general mercantile store until 1901. He then rented of his mother a farm located in Webster county and was there engaged in general farming for five years, after which time he returned to Stratford and purchased an interest in the mercantile firm of Swanson, Peterson & Company. In January, 1911, the name of the firm was changed to Peterson, Rodine & Company, since which time Mr. Rodine has continued to give his entire attention to the interest of the business. In addition to his mercantile interests he is also the owner of the fine residence in which he lives in Stratford.

Mr. Rodine was united in marriage to Miss Mary L. Angstrom on the 5th of September, 1900. She is a daughter of Olaf and Ella Angstrom, both of whom are natives of Sweden. To Mr. and Mrs. Rodine four children have been born: Zola, Caro, Maurice and Clarence A., aged respectively eleven, nine, seven and four years. Mr. Rodine belongs to the republican party and has fraternal relations with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America. He and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Stratford. Mr. Rodine by public opinion is placed among the enterprising and successful business men of Stratford and is in every way entitled to be known as a desirable and useful member of the community in which he lives.

NICHOLAS F. CHRISTENSON.

Nicholas F. Christenson is a prominent feed and grain merchant in Webster City and is influenced in his business life by sound principles of integrity and by intelligent industry, which qualities have dominated his career from its beginning and have brought it to its present successful issue. His offices are maintained at No. 539-541 Second street and his operations include dealings in flour, feed, seeds, hay,



N. F. CHRISTENSON AND FAMILY

poultry remedies and many other kindred commodities. Mr. Christenson is a native of Norway in which country his birth occurred on August 10, 1862. His parents, Nicholas N. and Elizabeth (Peterson) Christenson, left their native country and came with four children to the United States in 1869. They settled in Webster City, in June of the same year, where the father followed the trade of tailor and was also active as a gardener until December 31, 1882. On this date his death occurred, when he was sixty-four years of age. Two years later, in February, 1884, his wife passed away when she was fifty-eight years of age. They were the parents of seven children: Adolph, who died in 1882; Nicholas, the subject of this review; Sigval, who is a resident of Webster City; Dena, who is married and lives in Emmett county, Iowa; Lena, who is a trained nurse in Minneapolis; Anna, who married and removed to Wright county, Iowa; and Olaf, who is still a resident of Webster City. The four oldest children of this family are natives of Norway, while the three youngest were born in Webster City.

Nicholas F. Christenson was seven years old when his parents came to America. He received a limited education in the public schools of Webster City but was forced by the necessity of earning his livelihood to lay aside his books at the age of eleven years. At that early period in his life he started on his active career, finding employment in the nursery business of G. D. Sutton, of Webster City, under whom he worked for nine months, receiving for his services seven dollars per month. He then became a farm hand, working by the month on neighboring farms and continued in this line until 1882. He was economical in an intelligent way and was in that year enabled to rent the Kendall Young farm in Hamilton county which he improved and developed for four years. In 1886 he entered the employ of his father-in-law, Thomas Pringle, but this association lasted only four months. At the end of that time Mr. Christenson rented a part of the H. E. Schroeder farm and there carried on agricultural pursuits for two years. From 1888 to 1890 he was active in the cultivation of the Robert Foster farm which he had rented. Although his success was gratifying in all of these activities and his harvests abundant he made various removals, always farming upon land which he rented. In 1890 he moved to Wright county, Iowa, on the M. A. Michelson farm, four miles east of Woolstock and here he remained for four years before he moved back to Hamilton county. In 1892, however, while living on the Michelson farm he bought eighty acres of land known as the Tatum farm, one mile northwest of Woolstock,

Wright county. In 1894 he rented the Mattice section near Williams and his practical and progressive methods of agriculture brought him a substantial success. His dwelling house was then destroyed by fire and, in 1895, he abandoned his policy of farming on rented land and disposing of the eighty acres he had formerly purchased, bought the Phil Morris farm of eighty acres in Mulberry Center, Hamilton county, and brought his holdings to a highly improved and developed condition. In the spring of 1901 he sold his holdings and moved to Webster City with the intention of entering the commercial field of activity. In 1900 he had also bought a quarter section of land in Brookins county, South Dakota, and this he disposed of in 1904.

His business career in Webster City has been distinguished by shrewd intelligence and active interest in various lines of commercial development and a well deserved success in his chosen field of occupation. In 1903 he bought an interest in the Pringle & Company implement business and continued his identification with this concern for five years. In 1908, however, he met with an accident which incapacitated him for his duties in this capacity and he sold out his interest. In the same year he purchased the A. J. Brewer feed store and has since successfully conducted the enterprise under the name of N. F. Christenson. His dealings extend to all kinds of feed, grain and kindred articles. He does an extensive business in poultry remedies, oil meal, salt, hay, straw, flour and seeds, and is constantly increasing his activity. He owes his commercial success to energy and enterprise along modern lines and to his wise use of every favorable opportunity. His business has developed into an important concern, dominated by his forceful personality and guided by his undeviating policy of strict honor and integrity.

In 1882 Mr. Christenson was united in marriage to Miss Delfrata Pringle, a daughter of Thomas Pringle of Webster City. Mrs. Christenson died in June, 1892, leaving one son, Ray, whose death occurred in 1910. In March, 1893, Mr. Christenson was again married. His second wife was Miss Laura E. Rutledge, a daughter of G. T. Rutledge, a prominent farmer of Hamilton county. They have three children: George, born in 1895; Ruth, born in 1899; and Howard, whose birth occurred in 1907. The family reside at No. 526 Division street, Webster City.

Mr. Christenson gives his political allegiance to the prohibition party. He does not seek office and prefers to devote his attention to the successful operation of his business enterprise. Like many other men of today he planned and accomplished his own advance-

ment and has come through a series of hampering obstacles to a place worth attaining in commercial circles in Hamilton county. Success is always honorable if worthily attained and Mr. Christenson's prosperity redounds to his own credit and is a contributing factor toward the commercial upbuilding of Webster City.

J. M. RICHARDSON.

J. M. Richardson has given all his energies and activities since he left his father's farm in his boyhood to the jewelry business and has attained a degree of success in that line inseparable from his specialized knowledge. He is now operating one of the largest jewelry stores in Webster City, maintaining his business at No. 601 Second street, where he has been located since 1890. He was born in Mexico, Oswego county, New York, October 24, 1865. His parents were Marcus D. and Mariette (Calkins) Richardson, the former a prominent farmer in New York state during his entire life. The father died in that section of the country when he was about sixty-eight years of age and his wife passed away in 1887, when she was sixty years old.

J. M. Richardson began his studies at the usual age and pursued the regular curriculum in the common schools of his native city. As a boy he became acquainted with the details of modern and progressive agriculture by assisting his father in the work of the farm, but his ambition soon led him away from the tilling of the soil and directed his energies to commercial enterprises. When seventeen years of age he left home and went to Pulaski, New York, with the definite intention of learning the jewelry trade. His apprenticeship continued for three years and at the end of that time he was an expert workman in the mechanical details of his chosen business and an intelligent and discriminating judge of precious stones. In the fall of 1886 he came to Webster City and entered the employ of B. Detlor, a prominent jeweler in this city, with whom he remained for four years, gaining valuable personal experience in business methods and in the details of his occupation. In July, 1891, Mr. Richardson formed a partnership with H. J. Arthur under the name of Arthur & Richardson and carried on a prosperous jewelry business to which was attached also a drug department. The copartnership continued for eight years and the business grew rapidly under the able management

of Mr. Richardson. In 1899 he started an independent jewelry concern under his own name and has continued in this line of activity at No. 601 Second street since that time. He has become well known in business circles of Webster City as an intelligent and broad-minded man interested not only in his own enterprises but in every movement which makes for the industrial and social development of the community in which he resides. His cooperation is eagerly sought in many financial enterprises. He is a director of the First National Bank of Webster City and vice president of the Northwestern Felt Shoe Company. His activities are gradually extending as his prominence in the business world increases and his feet are upon the pathway which leads to distinguished business success.

On July 13, 1893, Mr. Richardson was united in marriage to Miss Hattie Estes, a daughter of L. L. Estes, one of the pioneer residents of Hamilton county and a prominent business man of Webster City. They have two children: Lewis E., whose birth occurred in 1894; and Claire, born in 1897. The family residence is at No. 1218 Des Moines street, Webster City. In his political views Mr. Richardson is consistently republican, but, although he keeps himself well informed upon public questions of national and local character, he gives very little attention to politics. He holds membership in Acacia Lodge, No. 176, F. & A. M.; in Hope Chapter, No. 88, R. A. M.; and in Triune Commandery, No. 41, K. T., holding in the latter branch of Masonry the office of past eminent commander. He belongs to Webster City Lodge, No. 302, B. P. O. E., and his name is well known in that organization. He is a member of the Congregational church and is recognized as a man of exemplary character, both in private and public life. His increasing business is gratifying evidence of his advancing prosperity. His fellow citizens recognize him as a successful man who is actively interested in the development of his personal enterprise as a valuable municipal asset.

WASHINGTON IRVING WORTHINGTON.

Washington Irving Worthington, whose residence in Webster City dates from October 20, 1855, was for a number of years actively engaged in business here as a carpenter and builder but is now living retired, spending the evening of life in well earned rest.

His birth occurred in Bainbridge, Chenango county, New York, in 1829, his parents being Theodore and Eliza (Irving) Worthington. In 1835 the family home was established in Tioga county, Pennsylvania, and two years later in Michigan, where the parents of our subject spent the remainder of their lives. Theodore Worthington was an agriculturist by occupation and also worked at the carpenter's trade.

W. I. Worthington was educated in the country schools of Michigan and during his early life worked at farm labor through the summer months and taught school in the winter seasons. At the same time he learned the carpenter's trade. In 1848, when a youth of nineteen, he left the parental roof and spent the following four years in Illinois and Wisconsin. Returning to Michigan, he there remained until his removal to Ohio and in 1855 came to Iowa. In April, 1855, he arrived in Des Moines, having journeyed to that place from Muscatine by stage. After a few months he made his way to Webster City and here he has resided continuously since, or for a period of fifty-seven years. During the early '60s he went to Pike's Peak in search of gold and when he returned to this state, at the end of two years, offered his services as a Union soldier in the Civil war but was rejected on account of physical disability. He spent two years in the south, however, acting as sutler's clerk for J. C. Cheney, of Fort Dodge, Iowa. After the cessation of hostilities between the north and the south he gave his entire attention to carpentering and building and gained an enviable reputation as the foremost carpenter of his time, being identified with the erection of many of the homes and business structures of Webster City.

Mr. Worthington has been married three times. In 1857 he wedded Miss Caroline Brewer, a daughter of William Brewer of Webster City, who was a cooper by trade and one of the pioneer settlers of Hamilton county. By this union there was one son, Charles Irving Worthington, whose birth occurred in 1857 and who now resides in Omaha. He is married and has three children. In 1863 W. I. Worthington wedded Miss Helen Skinner, a daughter of Jacob Skinner, an attorney of Webster City. She passed away about 1874, leaving four sons, while Fred died before her death. The others are George J., Frank, John and Marion. In 1876 Mr. Worthington married Miss Anna Carmony, her father being Peter Carmony, an agriculturist of La Salle county, Illinois. Unto W. I. and Anna (Carmony) Worthington was born a daughter, Grace Lee, whose natal year was 1877 and who gave her hand in marriage to Harry

Moore of Webster City. Mrs. Moore was called to her final rest in 1909.

At the polls Mr. Worthington has always voted independently. He served in the capacity of assessor for two years and acted as marshal of Webster City for one year. At the time of his arrival here Hamilton county was still but sparsely settled and largely undeveloped, and he has therefore witnessed the wonderful transformation which has occurred as pioneer conditions have given way before the onward march of civilization. His home is a comfortable and attractive residence at No. 402 Division street. He has now passed the eighty-third milestone on life's journey and enjoys the respect and veneration which should ever be accorded one who has traveled thus far on this earthly pilgrimage and whose career has been at all times upright and honorable.

GEORGE D. THOMPSON.

George D. Thompson, more familiarly known by his associates as "Dell" Thompson, was born in Bureau county, Illinois, June 12, 1867. His parents were Hiram E. and Maria L. (Studley) Thompson. They moved from Illinois to Hamilton county in 1873. Hiram Thompson was a farmer and most of his life in Hamilton county was spent in Cass township. He died in 1897 at the age of fifty-nine years. Maria Thompson survived her husband nine years. She passed to her reward in 1906 at the age of sixty-two years.

G. D. Thompson's early education in books was acquired at the country schools of Cass township but he learned to work on a farm in those strenuous days when farming was done by hand and when to bush or shirk was an unpardonable offense. His early associates were the sons of Augus McLaughlin, "Dave" Douglass and Simon Day, and it is a significant fact that an unusually large per cent of these rugged farmer boys from Cass township have grown up to be lawyers, doctors, and ministers and nearly all of them have attained positions of distinction.

It is curious how an apparently trifling incident will make a tremendous impression on the mind of a growing boy. It must have been in 1879 that the famous Daniels-Van Winkle cow case was tried at the McLaughlin schoolhouse. The opposing lawyers were Oscar Hall, young, brilliant and audacious, and the vigorous and somewhat

pugnacious J. L. Kamrar. "Dell" Thompson and the McLaughlin boys attended the trial and the forensic affray was as vigorous as it was interesting. After the trial, the boys crowded quickly to the schoolhouse door. They expected to see a fight when the lawyers met outside. Surely after the terrific arraignment of each other that had just occurred, these lawyers could not meet without fighting! Imagine then the wide-eyed wonder and almost disgust of the boys when the lawyers met with smile and joke and finally got into the same buggy and rode home together! The trial made a tremendous impression. Five of those boys became lawyers.

In 1884 young Thompson came to Webster City to attend the high school. He worked for his board, in the meantime, for George Smith at the Grand Central Hotel. Today he is one of the owners of the hotel in which he worked as "bell hop" while attending school. After leaving the high school he attended the Iowa State Teachers College at Cedar Falls and graduated from that institution in 1890. He then adopted teaching as a profession and for six years held the position of principal of the schools at Rippey, Greene county, Iowa. While teaching school he read law and in 1898 was admitted to practice by the supreme court of Iowa. He did not at once commence active practice but accepted the presidency of the Lehigh Valley Bank at Lehigh, Iowa, which he held for two years. In 1900 he came to Webster City and formed a partnership with J. H. Richard, and the firm of Richard & Thompson at once took an active and prominent position at the bar of Hamilton county. This partnership continued until 1902, when J. H. Richard was elected judge. Since that time Mr. Thompson has continued his practice alone.

G. D. Thompson is a lawyer who devotes all his time to the practice of law. His development as a lawyer has been gradual and continuing. He is not of the flashy, brilliant type whose reputation is made by the trial of a single case, but rather of that more solid and steady type whose success is the result of hard work. He is a striking example of a self-made man. He has a logical, well trained mind and is an eloquent forcible speaker, and these qualities have given him a leading position as a trial lawyer.

In politics Mr. Thompson is a stanch republican and has been active and prominent in local politics for the past ten years. For six years he was chairman of the county republican central committee. Several years ago he was a prominent candidate for the state legislature and he has received flattering mention as a candidate for con-

gress. He is now and has been for several years a member of the board of county commissioners of insanity.

On January 23, 1891, G. D. Thompson was united in marriage to Mary Howd, a daughter of C. A. and Ann Howd of Cass township. To them have been born four children, Irene, Ruth, Bessie and George D., Jr. Irene, the eldest, is now attending the college from which her father graduated. The family reside at 1114 Second street, Webster City, Iowa.

FREDERICK OLSON.

No history of Hamilton county would be complete without the record of the life of Frederick Olson, who for many years was one of the most valued and honored citizens of Ellsworth township and an important factor in its agricultural development. He was among the early settlers in this section and his life was closely identified with its progress and growth and his death a distinct loss to the community at large. Mr. Olson was born in Norway, October 2, 1824, a son of Ole J. and Margaret (Stime) Hopperstaff, natives of that country. His father died in Norway at the age of sixty-four and his mother passed away at the age of eighty-two. In their family were seven children: Mrs. Auberson, Mrs. Anna Brecha and Mrs. Anna Hopperstaff, all of whom are deceased; Frederick, of this review; Mrs. Laura Thompson, who has passed away; John, who resides in Capron, McHenry county, Illinois; and Julia, deceased. All of these children were born in Norway and all eventually came to America.

Mr. Olson received his education in the public schools of his native country and remained at home until he was twenty-seven years of age. He then determined to try his fortune in America and, crossing the Atlantic, he settled in Chicago, Illinois, in 1851. In that city and in its vicinity he remained until 1882, when he came to Hamilton county, arriving in March of the same year. Here he purchased two hundred acres of land on section 35, Ellsworth township, and gave his entire time to its development and improvement. He erected substantial buildings upon the premises and also a well furnished, modernly appointed home, into which he moved his valuable library of choice literature. Being a man of splendid ability and executive force and of keen discernment, he gradually became successful and



MR. AND MRS. FREDERICK OLSON

attained a position of prominence among the representative citizens of the section.

In Chicago, Illinois, in 1852, Mr. Olson was united in marriage to Miss Laura Butler, a native of Norway, born September 2, 1834. She came to America with her parents in 1838, being about eleven weeks en route from Norway, and settled with them in Fort Dearborn, now the great metropolis of Chicago. Her parents were among the earliest pioneers in that section and found upon their arrival only three crude buildings. For many years they struggled against the primitive conditions and the father, Marquis Butler, is known today in Chicago history as one of its first and most prominent builders. Four brothers of Mrs. Olson, as well as a sister of Mr. Olson, are buried where Lincoln Park is located. Members of this family have always been interested in history and have taken pleasure in collecting valuable antiques. Mrs. Olson is in possession of a family Bible over four hundred years old, which is said to be one of the oldest books in the state of Iowa and is extremely valuable. Mrs. Olson's father died in La Salle county, Illinois, at the age of seventy-nine. Her mother, who was in her maidenhood Miss Alice Peterson, passed away in the same section when she was seventy-four years of age. Ten children were born to their union, including John, deceased; Laura, the wife of the subject of this review; Nellie, who lives in Aurora, Illinois; Lorinda; Herman and Albert, both deceased; and Martina Grover. Mr. and Mrs. Olson became the parents of twelve children: Ole Julius, deceased; Henry and Margaret Louisa, who have also passed away; Alice Josephine, who lives at home; Frederick Lawrence, who resides in Adams county, Colorado; Joseph Eugene, deceased; Lida Eugene, who lives in Los Angeles, California; Frantz, who has passed away; Esther Julia Ann, who makes her home with her mother on the farm; Josephine Matilda and Bertha May, who also live at home; and Frances Hartwig, who lives in California. The four eldest in this family were born in Chicago and the others in La Salle county, Illinois.

Mr. Olson was a stanch republican but his public spirit never took the form of office seeking. He was a devout member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, holding membership in Story City, Iowa. His death occurred in Ellsworth township, January 14, 1904, when he was nearly eighty years of age. At that time he owned two hundred acres of fine land, with excellent improvements, and this property he left to his wife and children, who are carrying on its development along modern and progressive lines. They are among

the most honored and highly esteemed people in this part of the state, where the integrity, public spirit and loyalty which are traditions in their family are widely known and honored. The death of Mr. Olson deprived Hamilton county of one of its upbuilders and developers, a man of broad and liberal mind, a cultured scholar, a public-spirited and enterprising citizen. All the undertakings with which he was identified were profitable and prosperous, yet his truest success lay in the honor and esteem which he has won from his associates and friends.

ALFRED JAMES SIMPSON.

Alfred James Simpson, who is employed in the general mercantile store of J. P. Talcott, was born at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, on the 6th of December, 1855, and is a son of James and Elizabeth (Patterson) Simpson. The father was a native of Langdale End, England, his birth having there occurred in 1815, and the mother of Dublin, Ireland. In 1869, the family removed to Iowa, making the journey from Wisconsin to Hamilton county in a prairie schooner. They spent the winter in Webster City, and in the spring the father traded an old horse and fifty dollars in money for a forty acre tract of land, which now forms part of the Murphy farm in Williams township. He subsequently increased his holdings by the purchase of eighty acres lying north of his homestead and another eighty lying south. The further improvement and cultivation of this place engaged his attention until 1885, when he disposed of it and removed to Wright county, where he bought and sold three different farms and then settled in Dows. He and the mother subsequently returned to Williams and spent their latter years in the home of their son, Alfred James, where they passed away, her death occurring on September 15, 1899, and his on the 5th of April, 1901. They were the parents of three sons, our subject being the eldest. The next in order of birth, Frederick, was born in Wisconsin, October 2, 1858, and died at Iowa City, this state, on the 7th of January, 1906, and was buried at Dows. Edgar Patterson, the youngest member of the family, is also a native of Wisconsin, his birth having occurred there on February 28, 1862, and is now residing at Armstrong, Kossuth county, Iowa.

Alfred James Simpson was educated in the common schools of his native state, where he passed the first fourteen years of his life. The greater part of his youth and early manhood was devoted to agricultural pursuits, but he has for some years been engaged in mercantile activities.

On the 16th of September, 1880, Mr. Simpson was married to Miss Ellen Lister, who was born at Farley, Dubuque county, Iowa, on the 12th of November, 1857. She removed from there in 1870 to Rose Grove township, Hamilton county, with her parents, who are mentioned at greater length under the sketch of Thomas Arthur Lister. Nine children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Simpson: Mildred May, who was born on the 29th of May, 1881, the wife of Frank Wood, of Williams; Morton Le Roy, whose natal day was December 18, 1882, a resident of Porter, Minnesota; George Edgar, who was born on March 13, 1885, of Webster City, Iowa; Pearl Lurene, who was born December 28, 1887, the wife of James Bowen, residing in Rose Grove township; Benjamin Harrison, a resident of Williams, who was born on the 6th of February, 1889; Helen Elizabeth, who was born on the 1st of November, 1890, the wife of Roy Burkett, of Williams; Myrtle Maud, of Williams, who was born on the 15th of September, 1892; Floyd Herbert, whose birth occurred on July 24, 1894, of Williams; and Flossie Belle, who was born on the 29th of March, 1899, and is attending public school. Mrs. Bowen and the son Benjamin are natives of Wright county, but the other members of the family were born in Hamilton county.

Fraternally, Mr. Simpson is identified with Silver Link Lodge, No. 458, I. O. O. F., and has been secretary of the same for the past fifteen years. He is one of the oldest members of the local order of this organization, having been initiated at their second meeting. He also belongs to the Mystic Workers of the World and is secretary of the Williams lodge. In politics, Mr. Simpson is a republican and takes an active interest in all municipal affairs. He has several times been called to public office, having served as mayor for two terms, while for eight years he discharged the duties of constable. The family affiliate with the Presbyterian church and number among the members of its congregation many close friends. Mr. Simpson has passed the greater part of his life in this section of the state, much of his time having been spent in the immediate vicinity of Williams, which contained but two houses when he first came here. He has witnessed the town destroyed by fire on three occasions. For many years he has actively cooperated in its progress and develop-

ment, and is numbered among its public-spirited and enterprising citizens. He owns his residence, which is one of the attractive properties of the town, and expects to spend the remainder of his life in the community endeared to him by associations of many years.

ARTHUR C. HUGHES.

Arthur C. Hughes was born in Lincoln, Nebraska, May 19, 1873, a son of George W. and Julia A. (Bracken) Hughes, in whose family were six children: Mrs. Lizzie Hayward, of Lincoln, Nebraska; Jimmie; Harvey L., a resident of Superior, Nebraska; Mrs. Jennie Callahan, of Amarillo, Texas; Arthur C., of this review; and Mrs. Jessie Short, of Omaha, Nebraska. George W. Hughes passed away February 25, 1906, and his wife on the 29th of January, 1912.

Arthur C. Hughes moved with his parents to Missouri when he was ten years of age and received his education in the public schools of that state. He came to O'Brien county, Iowa, in 1890 and spent several years in that section, going to Nebraska eventually and dying at Beatrice, August 2, 1909, when he was only thirty-six years of age.

On the 20th of February, 1896, Mr. Hughes was united in marriage to Miss Mary L. Sowers, a native of Ellsworth township, Hamilton county, born February 7, 1871. She is a member of one of the pioneer families in this section of Iowa and grew to womanhood in her native township. She and her husband became the parents of ten children: Claude Guy, who was born in O'Brien county, December 22, 1896, and who died on February 25, of the following year; Arthur Ray, who was born January 24, 1898, and who is residing with his mother; Royal Herbert, who was born February 23, 1899, and died March 3, of the same year; Lloyd Elmer and Floyd Delmer, twins, born October 24, 1900, the latter of whom passed away November 19, 1909; Chester Lee, born March 16, 1902; Edward Neal and Edgar Noel, twins, born December 16, 1904, both of whom are deceased, the former passing away August 2, 1905, and the latter on August 4, of the same year; Roland Lester, born February 3, 1907; and Julia Rebecca, born July 30, 1908. The family are members of the Christian church.

After the death of her husband Mrs. Hughes removed to the family home in Ellsworth township and has nobly assumed the re-

sponsibility of raising a large family of children. She owns forty acres of the old Sowers' homestead on section 35, one of the most attractive farms in the section. The improvements were put up by Mrs. Hughes' father, who also planted the grove and large orchard, which add beauty and attractiveness to the appearance of the place. Here she has made a real home for her children and is devoting her energies to their upbringing, cheerfully and willingly making the utmost sacrifices in order that they may become good, upright and worthy men and women.

ALBERT W. ROSS.

Albert W. Ross, who is engaged in the hardware business in Williams, was born in the vicinity of Epworth, Dubuque county, Iowa, on the 22d of August, 1875. His father, Norman A. Ross, was born in Massachusetts, but has long been a resident of Iowa, and now makes his home in Council Bluffs. In 1879, the family removed to Waterloo, Iowa, going from there to Fort Dodge, thence to Sedalia, Missouri, and subsequently to Williams, Iowa. Shortly before removing to Waterloo the father had entered the service of the Illinois Central Railroad Company in the capacity of telegraph lineman, but he only followed this vocation for about two years and then entered the train service and is now passenger conductor between Fort Dodge and Omaha, Nebraska. The mother, whose maiden name was Leola Ann Jaques, was born near Findlay, Ohio, whence she removed with her parents to Dubuque county, Iowa, in 1868. Her father was one of the trustees of Epworth Seminary, at Epworth, this state, and her brother W. K. Jaques, is a well known physician of Chicago. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Ross numbers three, two sons and a daughter, our subject being the eldest. The daughter, Hattie Leola, who is the next in order of birth, was born near Epworth, Iowa, on the 9th of February, 1877, and graduated from the Williams high school with the class of 1892. She is the wife of R. S. Goulden, a graduate of the Iowa State College at Ames, who is engaged in teaching mathematics and manual training in one of the Arkansas state schools, at Monticello, that state. Ozro N., who is the youngest member of the family, was also born in the vicinity of Epworth, his natal day being December 29, 1879. After graduating from the Williams high school he attended the Iowa State College

for a year and subsequently became deputy clerk of the courts of Hamilton county, in which capacity he served for four years. He is now residing in Webster City and is employed in the abstract office of Varick C. Crosley.

The education of Albert W. Ross was begun in the public schools of Fort Dodge and continued in those of Sedalia, Missouri, and Williams. He was one of the first four graduates of the Williams high school and was a member of the class of 1892, as was also his sister. After leaving school he apprenticed himself to the tinner's trade in the shop of Tomlinson & Talcott of Williams, being identified with this firm for three years, with the exception of one winter, when he attended the seminary at Epworth. In 1896, he became associated with S. E. Aumiller, under the firm name of Ross & Aumiller, in the hardware business at Vincent, Iowa. The next year he withdrew from this enterprise and went to Bancroft, Kossuth county, accepting a position as tinner with Bronson & Company of that place. They subsequently sold out to Nemmers Brothers, but their successors retained the services of Mr. Ross, who was connected with this concern for a year. At the expiration of that time he returned to Williams, and was employed in the hardware store of William Sawyer, until it was destroyed in the big fire, in February, 1899. Very soon thereafter, Mr. Ross once more engaged in business for himself in the old school building at the corner of Main and Third streets, where he conducted a tin shop and bicycle store until 1901, when he moved to his present location. He carries a good assortment of shelf and heavy hardware, cutlery, and tinware in connection with which he maintains a repair department and tin shop. He owns the building where his store is located and is meeting with success, having built up a good trade in Williams and the surrounding country.

At Woolstock, Iowa, on the 1st of January, 1900, Mr. Ross was united in marriage to Miss Maggie Gerard, a native of Lee county, Illinois, who died in Williams on November 2, 1900. Her parents were residents of Woolstock, to which place they had removed from Illinois in 1892. On the 19th of August, 1910, Mr. Ross was married to Miss Emma Mills, whose natal day was November 24, 1888. She was graduated from the Williams high school in 1906 and subsequently took a stenographic course in the Waterloo College of Commerce. She is a daughter of Samuel Fillmore and Mary L. (Hizer) Mills, the former a native of Oak Park, Cook county, Illinois, his birth having there occurred on the 7th of January, 1850, while the

mother was born in Steuben, Oneida county, New York, on August 15, 1853. They located in the southern part of Wright county, Iowa, in 1877, and there the father engaged in farming for several years. In 1907 Mr. Mills withdrew from active work and removed to Williams, where he purchased some property and erected a modern residence on the site where stood the first house built in the town. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Mills, of whom Mrs. Ross is the youngest. In order of birth the others are as follows: Clara S., who was born in the vicinity of Rockford, Illinois, on July 17, 1874, the wife of E. D. Harding, who is operating the old Mills' farm in Vernon township; Sarah J., who was born on the 14th of January, 1876, and became the wife of M. C. Peterson, of Dolliver, Iowa; Lucy L., whose birth occurred December 17, 1877, the wife of L. V. Vaughan, of Rockford, Illinois; Charles Willard Francis, whose natal day was December 11, 1879, residing near Rockford, Illinois; and James Lee Martin, who was born on the 5th of December, 1883, of Wright county, Iowa.

Mr. and Mrs. Ross attend the services of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which she is a member. Fraternally Mr. Ross is affiliated with Alamo Lodge, No. 547, A. F. & A. M., in which he has filled all of the chairs; and Hope Chapter, No. 88, R. A. M., of Webster City. He also belongs to Jungle Camp, 1844, M. W. A.; the Royal Neighbors, of which he is one of the managers of the local order, No. 633; and the Yeomen. He votes the republican ticket, and has been town recorder for four years and chief of the fire department for ten. Mr. Ross is one of the public-spirited, enterprising business men of the town, where he is widely known and held in high esteem.

J. A. DUNKEL.

J. A. Dunkel is a thoroughly equipped civil engineer and to his activities in this line brings a scientific and technical knowledge of the details of his business and a sound theory often successfully tested in practical work. Mr. Dunkel was born in Illinois in 1881, and is a son of John M. and Annie (Hall) Dunkel, the former a prominent farmer and stock-raiser in Illinois. In this state the father still makes his home, but the mother has passed away. The public schools of his native state afforded J. A. Dunkel his early opportunities in an educational line and he pursued his studies until he had completed the

usual course of studies. His engineering career began in 1900, when he entered the employ of the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton Railroad, where he perfected himself in civil engineering. He had an apt and alert mind, scientifically inclined and he was also endowed with a degree of mechanical skill. These qualities stood him in good stead in his chosen field and after five years of continuous application he had achieved a special education along this line which put him in the front rank in his profession. In 1905 he was employed by the city engineer of Tuscola, Illinois, and became in 1906 identified as a partner with the newly organized Tuscola Supply & Construction Company, formed to do business in Iowa and having its office in Webster City. In the following year Mr. Dunkel removed to the latter city and took up his active duties in the construction line of activities. He remained with the Tuscola Supply & Construction Company until February 1, 1911. In that year he disposed of his interests to W. H. Omstead and established an enterprise of his own which he has since conducted. He makes a specialty of drainage work. He thoroughly understands engineering, construction and the various intricate mechanical details of the profession with which he is identified. He has a systematic and technical mind, stored with a large amount of broad general knowledge and a wide acquaintance with the special details of his profession.

In January, 1906, Mr. Dunkel was united in marriage to Miss Clara Stimson, of Ellettsville, Indiana, and to their union has been born one son, James Stimson, whose birth occurred in October, 1908. The family residence is at No. 908 Second street, Webster City, Iowa, and Mr. and Mrs. Dunkel are well known in the younger social circles of the city. He believes firmly in specialization as a factor in efficiency and has conformed his own business activities to this theory. His youth makes his present degree of attainment a mere preliminary to greater future success to which his many friends in Webster City look forward as a certainty.

PETER J. OKLAND.

One of Hamilton county's sons whose business career reflects credit upon himself, family and community is Peter J. Okland, one of the foremost representatives of the commercial activities of Randall. His birth occurred in Ellsworth township on the 24th of March,



P. J. OKLAND

1879, his parents being Nels P. and Julia M. (Ellingson) Oakland. The father is a native of Norway and the mother of Benton county, Iowa, where they were married and began their domestic life. They came to Hamilton county during the pioneer period, locating in Ellsworth township, where for many years the father engaged in agricultural pursuits, but he has now withdrawn from active work and he and the mother are residing in Randall. To them were born the following children: Peter J., who was born in Benton county in 1875 and died in infancy; Mrs. Julia G. Thompson, who resides in the vicinity of Williams; Peter J., our subject; Ellen, who is deceased; John, who is a resident of Ellsworth township; Halver, who lives in Minnesota; and Alma, who is deceased. All but the first named were born in Hamilton county, where they were likewise reared.

Peter J. Oakland was born and reared on a farm and educated in the rural schools of Ellsworth township, and also attended the Jewell Lutheran College for two years. His life has not been unusual in any way but has passed in the routine which is characteristic of small communities. The son of a self-made man, as a child he had instilled in his youthful mind many valuable precepts on thrift and diligence and the important part they played in the achievement of a successful career. In common with the majority of youths who are reared in the country he early began to assist in the tilling of the fields and care of the crops, continuing to follow agricultural pursuits until 1902. Believing that commercial activities afforded better returns he then gave up farming and accepted a clerkship in a general mercantile store in Randall, preparatory to fitting himself for a business career. Five years later, feeling that he was fully qualified to engage in the operation of a like enterprise for himself, he resigned his position and established a general mercantile store under the firm name of Oakland & Company. The marked development of his business and the excellent patronage he enjoys leaves no doubt as to the wisdom of his decision, but on the contrary is substantial proof of his possessing clear foresight and sound judgment. He carries as large and varied an assortment as will be found in any similar establishment in the county and draws his patrons from the surrounding country for a radius of several miles. His success must be attributed to a careful study of the varied needs and circumstances of his customers, no less than to his gracious, accommodating manner and upright business methods.

Mr. Oakland was married on the 6th of December, 1906, to Miss Bertha G. Anderson, who was born in Jewell Junction, this state,

on the same day and month in the year 1884. Her father, John P. Anderson, is a native of Denmark, whence he emigrated to the United States in early life. Here he met and married Miss Mary J. Idso, a native of Kendall county, Illinois. They resided in Story county, Iowa, during the early period of their married life, coming from there to Hamilton county, locating here during pioneer days. They now make their home in Randall. Nine children have been born to them in the following order: Carl, who was born in Story county on the 18th of October, 1878, and is associated in business with Mr. Okland; Bertha, deceased; D. Martin, a hardware merchant of Randall; Mrs. Okland; Mabel, who is clerking for Okland & Company; Anna, deceased; Rasmus, a resident of Randall; and Alfred and Albert, who are deceased. The three eldest were born in Story county, this state, but the last named are natives of Hamilton county. Mr. and Mrs. Okland have two children: Lloyd H., who was born on the 12th of October, 1908; and Ralph L., whose natal day was October 18, 1909.

Mr. and Mrs. Okland are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and his political support Mr. Okland accords to the republican party. The owner of his residence, one of the best in the town, and a thriving business, he takes an active and helpful interest in forwarding the development of the community and is in every sense of the word a most desirable type of citizen.

N. H. BAWDEN.

Business success is a direct result of centralized energy, an alert mind and an intelligent power of discrimination. Political ability comes from a discerning sense of the values of men, constructive organization and genuine honesty. These qualities united in the character of N. H. Bawden, now serving as supervisor of Hamilton county, where he has made his home for many years, a representative business man in Webster City and one of the efficient public officials of his county. He was born near Galena, Illinois, December 21, 1852. His parents, Nicholas and Anna (Harris) Bawden, were both natives of England and their families for many generations were residents of Cornwall. Representatives in the paternal line were engaged in mining in that vicinity while the maternal side of the family have been agriculturists for a long period. Mr. and Mrs.

Nicholas Bawden were married in England and both came to the United States prior to 1850, the father, however, preceding the mother by about two years, the latter bringing with her their eldest daughter. Mr. Bawden made the journey across the Atlantic on a sailing vessel and it was accomplished under difficult conditions. Vessels at that time were entirely dependent upon the winds and these being adverse at the time of Mr. Bawden's crossing, lengthened the journey to over four months. When he finally landed in America he pushed on immediately to Lafayette county, Wisconsin, and thence to Jo Daviess county, Illinois. Here the father followed his occupation of mining and became a well known citizen of his adopted district before his death, in 1858. His wife survived him until 1880, in which year her death occurred. Beside the daughter born in England Mr. and Mrs. Bawden were the parents of seven sons, whose births occurred in the United States.

N. H. Bawden was reared at home and educated in the public schools of Jo Daviess county, Illinois. He pursued the usual course of study until he was fourteen years of age and then laid aside his books to accept a position in the iron mines of the northern peninsula of Michigan, near Marquette, where he remained for seven years. He then went to Apple River, Illinois, and engaged in the butcher business with some success until 1877. In that year his residence in Webster City began and has continued with an interruption of two years since that time. In 1877 he started a meat market in Webster City and was active and successful in its operation for a few months. When the mining rush to the Black hills of South Dakota commenced he abandoned his business interests in Webster City and removed to the ore fields, where he spent one year prospecting with, however, but little success. In 1878 he returned to Webster City and eventually purchased a tract of land in Freedom township, Hamilton county, which he developed and improved along modern agricultural lines for ten years. His farming was practical and productive of good results and during his period of identification with this line of activity Mr. Bawden accomplished much for the farming interests of his county. In 1890 he again removed to Webster City and has remained there since that time engaged in various commercial enterprises. His ambition and energy and his undoubted business ability have always been directed towards expanding and developing ends. He has been for many years a prominent figure in business circles of Webster City and his citizenship has been a valuable asset in the municipal progress. He has been identified with the grocery business

and has spent two years in the creamery line. He successfully conducted for five years a flour and feed business, which under his management and direction became one of the largest concerns of its kind in the city. During the last few years he has given his time principally to the political activities and duties incident to his public career. He has never deviated from his allegiance to the republican party and has served his community in various positions. From 1902 to 1903 he was constable in Webster City and did effective work in this capacity. He was deputy sheriff from 1909 to 1910 and was elected to his present office of county supervisor on the 1st of January, 1911. He is a capable and efficient public servant, keenly interested in the public welfare and thoroughly awake to developing conditions. His political activities have been distinguished by a rare honesty of purpose and a high intelligence in the promotion of the interests of his constituents.

On January 26, 1876, Mr. Bawden was united in marriage to Miss Canzetta J. Foval, a daughter of George Foval, of Jo Daviess county, Illinois. To this marriage were born four children: Earl, a cement contractor in Oklahoma, who married Miss Rose Mikel, by whom he has one son, Harold; Irene, who became the wife of Fred Knudson, a hardware merchant in Sibley, Iowa, and is the mother of two children, Jack and Virginia; Beyel, who became the wife of J. W. Mason, of Webster City, and passed away in 1908; and Arthur Grant, who resides on a farm in Freedom township, Hamilton county, Iowa, with his wife, who was in her maidenhood Miss Susie Mason. The first Mrs. Bawden died on August 28, 1898, and on December 10, 1902, our subject was again married. His second wife was Mrs. Carrie Mullen, a daughter of A. H. Malcolm, one of the pioneer settlers of the state of Iowa. He is a representative and valued citizen of Rolfe, that state, and has been identified with some of the leading interests in its pioneer development. He took part in the troubles following the Spirit Lake massacre and is a distinguished veteran of the Civil war. He is now in the eightieth year of his age and is living in Rolfe with his wife, who is sixty-eight years old. Mrs. Bawden is the mother of two children by her first marriage: Jean Mullen, born in 1889, a resident of Pocahontas, Iowa; and Malcolm, whose birth occurred in 1891 and who is residing in Webster City. Mrs. Bawden is a charming and hospitable woman and is well known in social circles of the city. She is a member of the Order of Rebekahs, and her religious work in the interests of the Methodist Episcopal church is active and efficient.

Mr. Bawden is prominently identified with various fraternal organizations in his city. His connection with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows has existed since he attained his majority. He now belongs to Webster City Lodge, No. 342, I. O. O. F., and is a past grand of that organization and for the last fifteen years has served as its banker. He also holds membership in Ridgley Encampment, No. 9, and is past chief patriarch and banker for this branch of the order. He belongs to Webster City Lodge, No. 23, Eureka Canton, and has held the position of banker in this organization also. His fraternal affiliations form one of the active interests of his life and his business ability and organizing skill have been valuable assets to the societies with which he is connected. Mr. Bawden is a man whose broad and intelligent citizenship makes him representative and prominent in business, political and social circles of Webster City. Honorable and broad-minded in his purposes, always careful to conserve the interests not only of his constituents but of the general public, active, energetic and discriminating, his political labors are of the expanding and developing kind which bring definite and certain results.

GEORGE B. BERGESON.

George B. Bergeson, who is engaged in the piano business, is one of the well known residents of Ellsworth, where he has been identified with commercial interests for twenty years. He was born in La Salle county, Illinois, on the 17th of May, 1875, and is a son of Peter and Anna M. (Peterson) Bergeson, natives of Norway. They came to America in the early '50s and were married in La Salle county, Illinois, where the father subsequently engaged in farming. In 1883 the family removed to Hamilton county, Iowa, settling on two hundred and forty acres of partially improved land in Lincoln township, where Mr. Bergeson continued his agricultural pursuits. He diligently applied himself to the further improvement and cultivation of his farm until 1901, when he removed to Ellsworth, where he lived in retirement until his death which occurred on January 15, 1906, at the age of seventy-five years. The mother, who is seventy-seven years of age, resides in Ellsworth.

The youngest member in a family of five George B. Bergeson was reared at home and educated in the common schools. He assisted

his father until he was twenty-one, when he engaged in farming for himself on the old homestead. He continued his agricultural pursuits there for five years and at the expiration of that period bought eighty acres of land. After cultivating this place for a year, he disposed of it and came to Ellsworth, where he purchased the furniture and undertaking establishment of O. N. Sexy. He subsequently extended the scope of his activities by adding a stock of pianos and musical instruments, in which line he built up an excellent trade. On the 1st of May, 1912, Mr. Bergeson sold his furniture and undertaking business and now devotes his entire time and attention to his music store.

In 1897, Mr. Bergeson was married to Miss Martha Swenson, who was born on the 28th of August, 1872, and is the twelfth in order of birth in a family of thirteen. Her parents, Aad and Sarah (Nelson) Swenson, were born, reared and married in Norway, whence they emigrated to America with their family in 1886, locating in this county. Here the father passed away on February 13, 1902, at the age of seventy-six, but the mother was eighty-one at the time of her death, which occurred on the 6th of August, 1910. Mr. and Mrs. Bergeson have four children, Anna Mabel, Sylvia Agnes, George Marshall and Porter Benton.

The family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and fraternally he is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America, being secretary of Enterprise Camp, No. 4100. He is a democrat in politics and has represented his ward in the town council for the past seven years. Mr. Bergeson owns his residence and a business block here and is one of the stockholders of the Ellsworth Mutual Telephone Company, of which he is the secretary. He is a man of diligence and enterprise in matters of business, while as a citizen he is progressive and public-spirited, and is held in high esteem by his neighbors and fellow townsmen.

WILLIAM A. ALLINSON.

William A. Allinson is the owner of a barber shop in Williams, which he has successfully conducted since 1902. He was born in Illinois, on the 15th of August, 1870, and is a son of William and Jane (Armstrong) Allinson. The father, who died in Williams, February 22, 1901, was also a native of Illinois, but the mother was

born in Grant county, Wisconsin. She is now sixty-six years of age and is a resident of this city. In 1875, Mr. and Mrs. Allinson came to Iowa with their family and located on a farm in the vicinity of Williams, where they remained for two years. At the expiration of that time they removed to town and the father here established a wagon and blacksmith shop, which he conducted for many years, and for a time he also served as postmaster. In religious faith he was a Methodist and his widow and family affiliate with the same church. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Allinson numbered four, our subject being the third in order of birth. The others are as follows: Ada, who was born in 1865 and died at Zion City, Illinois, in September, 1903, the deceased wife of John I. Johnson; Jennie, whose birth occurred in July, 1869, the wife of Frank Millsap, of Rose Grove township; and John W., a resident of Williams, whose natal day was the 7th of June, 1884. The two eldest are natives of Illinois, but the last named was born in Hamilton county.

William A. Allinson was only a child of five years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Hamilton county, where he has ever since made his home. He obtained his education in the public schools of Williams and subsequently assisted his father in the operation of the wagon shop. Later he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, and for a time worked out as a farm hand, giving this up to enter upon the duties of assistant postmaster under H. N. Hurd. He retained this position under his father and John Hurd, and served the present incumbent, C. M. Stevens, in a like capacity for three and a half years, the length of his term being substantial evidence of his general efficiency. After resigning this office he engaged in the meat business in Williams for three years, and then clerked for Wilde & Company for a year. In 1902 he purchased the barber shop of Charles Miller, and during the intervening years has succeeded in building up a lucrative business in this line. He has many friends in the town and surrounding country, and through his efficient work, accommodating manner and unfailing graciousness has won a large patronage, which is constantly increasing.

On the 24th of May, 1892, Mr. Allinson was married to Miss Adeline Millsap, who was born near Toronto, Canada, on the 25th of August, 1874, and is a daughter of Thomas and Mary (Graham) Millsap, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of Canada. In 1880, the family came to Hamilton county, settling in Williams, but later they removed to a farm and subsequently located in Hardin county. There the parents passed away, the father's death occurring

in May, 1901, and that of the mother on the 4th of June, 1894. Their family numbered nine, Mrs. Allinson being the youngest. The others are as follows: Joseph; Sinclair; Frank; Edward; May, the wife of Albert Grose; Lydia, who became Mrs. John Dickey; Jennie, the wife of W. F. Shields; and Nellie, who married Amos Fenwell. Mr. and Mrs. Allinson have had three children: Harold Vincent, who was born October 2, 1893, graduated from the Williams high school with the class of 1911 and is assisting his father in the barber shop; Thomas LeRoy, who was born February 17, 1895, a member of the high-school class of 1912; and Angie Leah, who was born on the 6th of October, 1898, and is a student of the public schools. She was one of the members of her class who was accorded the privilege of taking the state examination this year and made a creditable record. The eldest son was born in Hardin county, but the births of the other two occurred in Williams.

Mrs. Allinson and the children belong to the Methodist Episcopal church, and fraternally he is affiliated with Alamo Lodge, No. 547, A. F. & A. M.; and Williams Camp, No. 1844, M. W. A. Mr. Allinson is one of the public-spirited men of the town and takes an active interest in all political affairs, giving his support to the republican party. He is a member of the board of education and served for two years as township clerk. He is a most desirable type of citizen, as he is diligent and enterprising in his business, owns his residence and is personally interested in promoting the development of the community along permanent, substantial lines. Despite the fact that his business claims much of his time and attention, he finds opportunity to indulge his fondness for baseball, and is pitcher for the local team, which is one of the best nines in the county, and has established a record by defeating the teams of the surrounding towns.

JAMES RANKIN.

Among the loyal and patriotic citizens of Iowa who donned the blue in defense of the Union in 1861 is numbered James Rankin, who for more than thirty years was identified with the agricultural development of Hardin county, but is now living retired in Williams, enjoying in his latter years the competence acquired by his early thrift and diligence.

MR. AND MRS. JAMES RANKIN



He was born in Ireland in 1838, and is a son of John and Esther (McBurney) Rankin, who were born, reared and married in the Emerald isle. In 1839, they emigrated to America, locating in Canada, where they resided until 1855, when they crossed the border into the United States, settling in Cedar county, Iowa. They subsequently removed to Greene county, this state, and there the father passed away in 1875. He was long survived by the mother, who died in Harrison county, Iowa, March 29, 1899, and was buried in the family lot in Greene county. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Rankin numbered nine, the first two of whom were born in Ireland, the next four in Canada, and the remainder in Cedar county, Iowa. In order of birth they are as follows: Abraham, who is a resident of Woodbine, Iowa; James, our subject; William, who is living in Harrison county, Iowa; George, of Clear Water, Nebraska; Belle, now Mrs. William Ayers, of Grand Junction, Iowa; Margaret, who married John Tipton, of Armstrong, Iowa; Letitia, the wife of John Sullivan of Beaver, this state; Sarah, who married George Smith, of Soldier, Iowa; and Esther, who became the wife of Fred Bowers, of Paton, this state.

James Rankin was only an infant when his parents emigrated to America, and a youth of seventeen years at the time they located in Iowa. He was reared on a farm and given the advantages of a common-school education, which he obtained in Canada. When the call came for troops in 1861, he responded as also did a brother, and went to the front as a private in Company E, Eleventh Iowa Volunteer Infantry. His term of service expired on the 31st of December, 1863, and he was honorably discharged at Vicksburg. He reenlisted the same day and served until the close of the war, being under the command of Colonel Hall. When mustered out he returned to Iowa, where he resumed his agricultural pursuits. In 1868, he removed to Hardin county, and there engaged in general farming and stock-raising until 1902, when he went to North Dakota to avail himself of his homestead rights as a veteran of the Civil war. He remained there for two years and at the expiration of that time came back to Iowa and purchased a residence in Williams, where he and his wife have ever since made their home.

In Cedar county, this state, on the 30th of August, 1866, Mr. Rankin was married to Miss Jane Cash, who was born in Oneida county, New York, on January 4, 1847. She is a daughter of William and Sarah (Webb) Cash, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of England. They came to Iowa during the pioneer days and

settled in Cedar county, and there the mother passed away in 1868, at the age of fifty-five years. She was long survived by the father, who was eighty at the time of his death, which occurred in Cedar county in 1884. They had another daughter, Sarah Ann, who was born in New York state on April 4, 1832, and died in Cedar county in June, 1894. She was the wife of Henry Britcher. To Mr. and Mrs. Rankin were born six children: Albert, who was born in Cedar county, Iowa, July 22, 1867, residing at Armstrong, Iowa; Sarah, whose natal day was October 16, 1869, the wife of John A. Carns, of Boise, Idaho; Ella, who was born March 13, 1872, and became the wife of Albert J. Palmer, of Hollister, Idaho; Henry, who was born September 30, 1875, and married Rose Johnson, a resident of Long Hill, Hardin county, Iowa; David, who was born on the 22d of April, 1877, and married Mary Craig, residing in the vicinity of Alden, this state; and Mary, who was born on the 2d of July, 1883, the wife of Nelson Dutton, residing at Herdsfield, North Dakota. All but the eldest son were born in Hardin county, this state.

Mr. and Mrs. Rankin are Methodists in their religious faith and hold membership with the church of that denomination in Williams. His fraternal relations are confined to this connection with C. Fairchild Post, No. 431, G. A. R., and in politics he is a republican. In his early years Mr. Rankin led an active, enterprising life, meeting with the success that invariably crowns earnest effort when intelligently put forth. He is now numbered among the substantial citizens of Williams, where he has property interests which are yielding him a good annual dividend.

ALEXANDER CARUTH.

Alexander Caruth, who is extensively engaged in general farming in Williams township, having under cultivation five hundred and twenty acres, has been identified with the agricultural interests of Hamilton county for twenty-three years. His birth occurred at Bridgeport, Hamilton county, Ohio, on the 23d of October, 1861. He is of Irish extraction in the paternal line, his father, Matthew Caruth, having been born on the Emerald isle, in November, 1842. The mother, whose maiden name was Mary Jane Cochran, was born and reared in Ohio, but passed away in Williams, April 2, 1909. The early domestic life of Mr. and Mrs. Caruth was passed in Ohio, whence

they removed to Mendota, La Salle county, Illinois, residing there until 1889. On March 1 of that year, they came to Hamilton county, locating on a farm in Williams township in the cultivation of which the father was engaged for many years. He has now retired from active work, however, and is living in Williams. Our subject is the eldest in a family of eight, the other members in order of birth being as follows: Sarah, the wife of Al Walters, of Waterloo, Iowa; William, who is a resident of La Salle county, Illinois; Robert, deceased; Adam, who is engaged in the implement business in La Salle, Illinois; Andrew of Williams; John, a resident of Williams; and Mary, who became the wife of Dr. Moorehouse, residing at Harlan, Iowa. The two elder children were born in Ohio and the others in Illinois.

The education of Alexander Caruth was obtained in the common schools of La Salle county, Illinois, where he was reared to manhood and fitted for the vocation he is now following. He came to Hamilton county after his marriage and has ever since been a resident of Williams township, where he owns a farm of one hundred and twenty acres. Mr. Caruth is enterprising and diligent and is meeting with success in his undertakings. In addition to the cultivation of his own fields he rents four hundred acres of land from his father, from which he annually reaps abundant harvests. He takes great pride in his homestead and has devoted much time and expense to its cultivation and improvement. His land is substantially fenced, he has ample barn room for the shelter of his stock and grain and a comfortable residence, all of which are kept in repair. His farm presents a good appearance and manifests the exercise of capable management and systematic supervision in its operation.

On the 11th of December, 1886, Mr. Caruth was married to Miss Mattie Cummings, who was born twelve miles from Albany, New York, on the 9th of October, 1861, and is a daughter of Henry and Perces (Chappell) Cummings. The father was born in the state of New York on February 14, 1836, while the mother is a native of Pittsfield, Massachusetts, her birth having there occurred on February 14, 1835. They passed their early married life in New York, but in 1865, removed to Illinois, subsequently coming from there to Iowa, and are now residing in Iowa Falls, Hardin county, this state. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Cummings numbers four: Mrs. Caruth; Irene, who was born in August, 1862, the wife of James Chase, of Weblake, Wisconsin; Orlando, whose birth occurred on October 5, 1864, a resident of Texas; and Ethel, whose natal day was the 2d of June, 1876, the wife of Arthur Ragan, of Hardin county. All were

born in New York, with the exception of Mrs. Ragan, who is a native of Illinois.

Mr. and Mrs. Caruth have had twelve children: Iva Fay and Myrtle Irene, both of whom are deceased; Ina, who was born March 14, 1889, the wife of A. E. Howes, who is mentioned at greater length elsewhere in this work; Harry, whose birth occurred October 10, 1891, a resident of Williams township; Cyril, born on the 17th of July, 1892, living at home; Henry Matthew, whose natal day was April 25, 1894; Clifford, born on the 3d of November, 1895; one, who died in infancy; Frederick, whose birth occurred on the 28th of December, 1897; Mary Jane, who died in infancy; Raymond, who was born August 6, 1901; and Robert, whose birth occurred on the 14th of January, 1905. The three eldest were born in Illinois and the younger members of the family in Hamilton county, this state.

The family affiliate with the Presbyterian church of Williams, and Mr. Caruth belongs to the local camp of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a stanch democrat in his political views. He is not remiss in matters of citizenship and takes an active interest in all things pertaining to the progress of the community or the general welfare of its residents. ,

ALVIN C. HENDERSON.

Alvin C. Henderson, a former agriculturist of Hamilton county, who is now residing in Williams, was born in De Kalb county, Illinois, on the 26th of June, 1873. He is a son of James W. and Eliza (Hipple) Henderson, natives of Perry county, Pennsylvania, the father's birth having there occurred on August 12, 1834, and that of the mother on May 5, 1837. They removed from the Keystone state to Somonauk, De Kalb county, Illinois, in 1860, where for many years the father engaged in farming. He is now deceased, his death having occurred in July, 1897, but the mother is still living, and continues to make her home in Somonauk. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Henderson, our subject being the seventh in order of birth and the youngest son. The other members of the family are as follows: Laura, now Mrs. J. L. Carms, of Courtland, Nebraska; Ida, the wife of J. M. Skinner, of Beuhler, Kansas; John A., a resident of Somonauk, Illinois; Matilda, who married W. A. Hines, of Sandwich, Illinois; James F., a resident of Somonauk, Illinois; Mary, deceased;

and Martha, now Mrs. A. Gletty, of Courtland, Nebraska. They were all born and reared on the old homestead in De Kalb county, Illinois.

The early years in the life of Alvin C. Henderson were passed on the farm where he was born, his education being obtained in the district schools and the high school at Somonauk. As is common with farmer lads he early began assisting his father with the work of the fields and care of the crops, thus familiarizing himself with the practical duties of the agriculturist. On the 1st of March, 1899, he came to Hamilton county, Iowa, where the December preceding he had purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land located in Rose Grove township. He diligently applied himself to the further cultivation and improvement of his farm during the succeeding thirteen years, meeting with fair success. In August, 1910, Mr. Henderson began auctioneering, and as he was efficient and capable the demand for his services steadily increased until he decided to give up farming and devote his entire attention to the former vocation. He, therefore, rented his farm and bought a residence in Williams, where he removed with his family on the 1st of March, 1912.

On the 27th of June, 1894, Mr. Henderson was married to Miss Sarah C. Davis, who was born in Somonauk, Illinois, on October 1, 1878, and there she was reared to womanhood, acquiring her education in the common schools. She is a daughter of J. W. and Mary A. (Arnold) Davis, the former a native of New York, his birth there occurring on October 30, 1848, while the mother was born in Batavia, Illinois, on the 1st of November, 1855. They removed from Illinois to Hamilton county, and now reside in Rose Grove township, this county. Their family numbered ten, all of whom were born in De Kalb county, Illinois, with the exception of the youngest, who is a native of this county. In order of birth they are as follows: Lizzie, the wife of John Johnson, of Webster City; Mrs. Henderson; Edgar T., who is a resident of Wyoming; Anna, now Mrs. L. B. Wood, of Williams; Clara, who is living in Williams; George, deceased; and Roy, Frank, Melvin and Jay, all of whom are living in Williams.

Mr. and Mrs. Henderson have five daughters: Ethel, who was born on the 6th of July, 1895; Grace, whose natal day was the 2d of January, 1898; Ella, who was born June 8, 1900; Fern, whose birth occurred on the 12th of October, 1902; and Vira, who was born November 7, 1904. The two eldest were born in La Salle county, Illinois, and the remaining three in this county.

The family attend the services of the Methodist Episcopal church of Williams, of which Mrs. Henderson is a member. Fraternally he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and his political support he accords the republican party. He served for eight years as clerk of Rose Grove township and he was also a member of the school board during his residence there. Mr. Henderson is one of the highly esteemed men of the community and enjoys the confidence of all with whom he has dealings, as he is straightforward and upright and conducts his transactions in an honorable manner.

J. WILLIAM WILKINSON.

J. William Wilkinson, senior partner of the firm of Wilkinson Brothers, dealers in general merchandise, is one of the highly esteemed members of the commercial circles of Williams, where he has been successfully engaged in business since 1909. He was born in Grant county, Wisconsin, on the 3d of July, 1871, and is a son of William Austin and Elizabeth (Tomlinson) Wilkinson. The father was born in Missouri but the mother is a native of Grant county, Wisconsin. Both parents are living and now make their home in Alden, Hardin county, Iowa. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Wilkinson numbered four, our subject being the second in order of birth. The others are as follows: Maude, who was born July 2, 1869, the wife of J. H. Watson, of Hardin county; Walter, who was born on the 5th of March, 1876, and studied for a time at the Iowa State College at Ames and subsequently pursued a law course in Drake University, now a resident of Quincy, Illinois; and Clifford A., who was born November 19, 1884, and is engaged in business with his brother, J. W., in Williams.

J. William Wilkinson was reared at home and at the usual age began his education in the public schools, terminating his student days before completing his high-school course at Alden, this state, where he resided for sixteen years. In 1909, together with his brother, Clifford A., he established a general mercantile store in Williams, which has proven to be a lucrative undertaking. Their store is favorably located, they have a well assorted stock of merchandise that they offer at reasonable prices, are accommodating and considerate of their patrons and as a result are building up a large trade and have

every reason to feel gratified with the development of their undertaking. They are practical, far-sighted men of enterprising methods and in the conduct of their business have conformed to a policy that commends them to the confidence of the community.

On June 19, 1895, Mr. Wilkinson was married to Miss Kate McCue, who was born in Amboy, Illinois, on the 11th of February, 1869. She is the seventh in a family of nine children born to Lawrence and Elizabeth McCue, natives of Ireland, who passed their latter years in Williams. In order of birth the other members of the family are as follows: Anna, the wife of James Gelday, of Fort Dodge, Iowa; James, who is a resident of Waterloo; Mary, who married C. H. Ball, of Chicago; Thomas, who is deceased; Ella, the wife of W. H. Minard, of Williams; Lawrence, who is residing at Nashua, this state; Bart, who lives at Seattle, Washington; and John, a regular in the United States army. The family have long been residents of Hamilton county, the two youngest children having been born here. Mr. and Mrs. Wilkinson have a son and a daughter: Harold T., who was born at Malcom, this state, on September 19, 1897, and is now a student of the local high school; and Leona E., whose natal day was the 12th of January, 1899, a student in the public school.

The political support of Mr. Wilkinson is given to the republican party, and although he takes an active interest in municipal affairs he has never held office. He is a man of high principles, energetic and diligent in his business, owns his residence, cooperates in promoting the progress of the community and is in every way a desirable citizen and a useful member of society.

CARL J. THORESON.

Carl J. Thoreson, who is engaged in the harness and automobile business, is numbered among the enterprising members of the commercial fraternity of Ellsworth. His birth occurred in Hamilton county on the 12th of September, 1876, and he is a son of Gustav and Anna (Egland) Thoreson. The father, who is now sixty-one years of age, is a native of Norway, while the mother was born in Illinois fifty-nine years ago. They were married in this county and here for many years the father devoted his energies to agricultural pursuits, but they have been residing in Jewell since 1895. Our subject is the eldest of the five children born to his parents.

The boyhood and youth of Carl J. Thoreson were passed on the farm where he was born, his education being obtained in the common schools. He remained at home until his people removed to Jewell, when he started out to make his own way in the world. For three years thereafter he worked out by the month, but at the expiration of that time he came to Ellsworth and opened a meat market, which he conducted for a year. He then disposed of this enterprise and went into the livery and dray business. A year later he likewise sold this business, investing the proceeds in a restaurant, which he conducted four months. In 1902 he bought out the harness shop of Oscar Gorman, and seven years later he extended the scope of his activities by building and equipping a garage and putting in a line of automobiles. As Mr. Thoreson is an active, wide-awake man of affairs and has established an excellent reputation for reliability and trustworthiness, he is accorded a large patronage. He has met with more than average prosperity and, besides his place of business and residence in Ellsworth, owns a hundred and sixty acres of land in Kossuth county.

In 1901, Mr. Thoreson was united in marriage to Miss Anna Olson, a daughter of Nels Olson of Randall, this county. She is the fifth in order of birth in a family of nine children, and was born on the 30th of January, 1878. Mr. and Mrs. Thoreson have become the parents of five children: Hazel R., Leo C., Lurine, Curtis L. and Mamie.

The family attend the services of the United Norwegian Lutheran church, in which the parents hold membership. Mr. Thoreson accords his political support to the republican party and has served for five years as school director. He is held in high regard by his fellow townsmen, as he belongs to the progressive type of citizen and takes a personal interest in forwarding the development of the community.

ROBERT PELZ.

Robert Pelz has contributed to the agricultural resources of Liberty township one hundred sixty-four and one-half acres of land intelligently operated and improved, and to the quality of citizenship in his section a life spent usefully and honorably in the pursuit of worthy ambitions. He was born in Germany on the 30th of April, 1865, and is a son of Ernest and Mary (Pelz) Pelz, both natives of the fatherland. His mother is now residing in Washington, Illi-



MR. AND MRS. ROBERT PELZ

nois, but his father lived and died in his native country. Mr. Pelz has one half sister, Mrs. L. E. Grove, who makes her home in Woodford, Illinois.

Robert Pelz came to America in 1874, and his active career has been entirely devoted to agricultural pursuits. His first location was made in Tazewell county, Illinois, where he remained until he was twenty-three years of age and engaged in farming. He removed to Livingston county and spent four years in that section following the same line of occupation, coming thence to Stanhope, Hamilton county, where he rented a tract of land and began its cultivation. He was extremely successful in the development of his farm. When his first lease expired he was able to purchase one hundred sixty-four and one-half acres on section two, Liberty township, and on this he is now residing and has won such a gratifying measure of success in his work that he is numbered among the substantial and representative farmers of his locality.

On the 24th of July, 1888, Mr. Pelz married Miss Lena Reeser, a native of Tazewell county, Illinois, born July 23, 1869. She is a daughter of John and Mary (Rinkleberger) Reeser, the former a native of France and the latter of Germany. Her father died in Woodford county, Illinois, in 1891, at the age of ninety-one years. He had long survived his wife who died in Illinois in 1886, at the age of fifty-three. To their union were born eight children: Joseph, who is now deceased; Christ, who is in business in Peoria, Illinois; John, who is farming near Eureka, Illinois; Benjamin, who makes his home in Kansas; Mrs. Fannie Springer, who has passed away; Mrs. Anna Householder, of Fairbury, Illinois; Mrs. Lizzie Albright, a resident of Lombardville, Illinois; and Mrs. Pelz. Mr. and Mrs. Pelz became the parents of nine children: Benjamin R., born August 19, 1889, in Cullom, Illinois, who is now residing in Blairsburg township, Hamilton county; John E., born May 14, 1891, in Cullom, who is now assisting his father in the work of the home farm; Mrs. Mary Hamitt, whose birth occurred February 5, 1894, in Cullom, and who is now residing in Blairsburg township; Esther, born August 7, 1896, in Stanhope, Iowa, who is now residing with her parents on the home farm; Sadie F., born in Liberty township, September 25, 1899; William McKinley, born September 14, 1901; Clara E., born November 10, 1905; Fred, whose birth occurred on the 29th of October, 1906; and Robert Irvin, born June 21, 1911.

In his political affiliations Mr. Pelz is a republican and takes an intelligent interest in everything connected with the welfare of his

section. He belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, holding membership in Williams, Iowa, but is not otherwise active in fraternal circles. He is a member of the Congregational church of Blairsburg, and is widely known as a man of high and exemplary character. He and his family are numbered among the most highly respected citizens of the community in which they reside, and their home is a center of hospitality for their many warm friends. Mr. Pelz is a successful man in the truest sense of the word—a man of unusually broad-minded and intelligent views, of broad tolerance and wide experience; not mercenary, not grasping, believing in something greater in importance than material wealth. In the course of a life spent simply and unostentatiously, he has been a factor for good in almost every phase of community development, and has given his energies to lasting, useful and worthy things.

CHARLES MARTIN TILGHMAN.

Charles Martin Tilghman, who was formerly identified with the agricultural development of Hamilton county, but is now living retired in Williams, is an honored member of the rapidly thinning ranks of the Civil war veterans and belongs to a family distinguished for its loyalty and patriotism. He is a native of Michigan, his birth having occurred in Oakland county, that state, on the 11th of March, 1836, and the third in order of birth and the oldest surviving member in a family of thirteen. The father, James M. Tilghman, was born in Westmoreland county, Maryland, July 14, 1807, but in his early manhood he located in Michigan where he passed the remainder of his life, his death occurring in Bay City, that state, on the 20th of March, 1890. The mother, whose maiden name was Ann Chapman, was born in Pennsylvania on the 26th of November 1819, and passed away on the old homestead in Oakland county, Michigan, on December 24, 1886. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Tilghman were all born in Oakland county. In order of birth those beside our subject are as follows: James Henry, who was born in Avon, Michigan, on the 2d of May, 1833, and died in Colorado, November 3, 1887; Sarah, who was born July 11, 1834, and died April 10, 1835; Mary Ann, who was born January 24, 1838, and died at Haworth, Illinois, November 5, 1911, the deceased wife of Leander Rutledge; Martha Elizabeth, the wife of Alexander Pittenger, who was born May 7, 1840, and died

at Orion, Michigan, in 1905; William Henry H., a resident of Flint, Michigan, whose natal day was the 5th of February, 1842; Vernelia, the deceased wife of Martin Hummer, born on the 16th of September, 1844, and died in Orion, Michigan, in 1909; Ellen, who was born on April 1, 1846, and died on the 20th of January 1865; Worth, who was born on the 2d of February, 1848, and died August 31, 1854; Devillo, who was born February 10, 1850, and died August 26, 1854; Juliet, who was born May 1, 1852, and died the same day; Frank Earlington, who was born on the 29th of September, 1854, and is now residing at Hagerstown, Indiana; and Rush Elmore, who was born January 7, 1857, and died on the 4th of May, 1874. The parents were among the early pioneer settlers of Michigan, where for many years the father engaged in agricultural pursuits. He was a public-spirited man, notable for his loyalty not only to the community but to the state and nation, and although he had attained the age of sixty years when the Civil war opened, he enlisted as a private and went to the front with the Seventh Michigan Volunteer Infantry.

The boyhood and youth of Charles Martin Tilghman were passed on the old family homestead in Michigan, in the common schools of which state he received his education. Being one of the elder members of a large family in moderate circumstances, he early began to assist his father with the work of the fields and care of the stock, and long before he had attained his majority was a useful member of society and a skilled agriculturist. At the age of twenty-one years he purchased a farm in McLean county, Illinois, thus laying the foundation for an independent career. He resided in that county for thirty-five years, devoting his energies to general agricultural pursuits in which he met with a fair measure of success. When the call came for seventy-five thousand volunteers after Fort Sumter was fired upon, Mr. Tilghman enlisted for seventy days. In 1862 he re-enlisted in Company B, Ninety-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry and served for three years. His division commander was General Herron, of Dubuque, Iowa, but at the siege of Vicksburg he was under the command of General John A. Logan. He participated in many of the notable battles of the war, and was wounded in the arm and in the leg at Prairie Grove, Arkansas. When mustered out he returned to Illinois and resumed farming. In 1892, Mr. Tilghman disposed of his interests in that state and on March 1, of that year, together with his wife and family he started for Hamilton county, Iowa, and the day following arrived in Williams, where he has ever since resided. Here he purchased a farm of three hundred and five acres, one hun-

dred and sixty of which is located in Wright county and the remainder in Williams township, Hamilton county, and for eleven years thereafter devoted himself to its further improvement and cultivation. It is well improved and highly cultivated and is numbered among the valuable farming properties of this section of the county. In 1903, Mr. Tilghman retired from active work and removed to town where he owns a pleasant residence, and he and his wife are spending the latter years of their life in well earned ease, enjoying a competence that supplies them with every need and many luxuries.

On the 27th of February, 1868, Mr. Tilghman was married to Miss Mary Kinsey, who was born in Wayne county, Indiana, on March 1, 1846, and there passed the first seven years of her life. She is a daughter of Thomas and Esther (Gwyn) Kinsey, natives of Pennsylvania, the father's birth having occurred on August 8, 1809, and that of the mother on December 17, 1807. They subsequently located in Wayne county, Indiana, where they resided until 1853, when they removed to McLean county, Illinois, and there they both passed away, the father on February 13, 1884, and the mother on the 18th of January, 1886. Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Kinsey, those besides Mrs. Tilghman, who is the youngest of the family, being as follows: Henry, who was born June 19, 1831, and died on the 4th of June, 1882; Joseph, who was born on January 29, 1833, and died in August, 1910; Martha, the wife of James Washburn, born August 17, 1835, and died in 1900; William, whose natal day was the 31st of August, 1837, now residing at Le Roy, Illinois, where he celebrated his golden wedding on March 5, 1912; Alfred, who was born on the 19th of March, 1839, and died December 5, 1840; and Emeline, who was born on June 18, 1843, and died August 10, 1873. Mr. and Mrs. Tilghman have had eight children: Thomas Martin, who was born February 25, 1869, and is now residing at Canby, Minnesota; Anna, who was born in Ford county, Illinois, January 4, 1873, the wife of Charles Stipp; Joseph F., who was born March 20, 1875; Emma May, who was born February 14, 1877, and died April 16, 1906; Dora Belle, who was born June 18, 1879, the wife of John Ranger, of Rose Grove township; Mary, whose natal day was the 20th of June, 1882, living at home with her parents; Maude Pearl, who was born August 5, 1886, the wife of Ray T. Johnson, of Williams; and Harry K., who was born August 3, 1889, and is living in Rose Grove township. Mr. and Mrs. Tilghman also have living with them a granddaughter, Letha Fern Tilghman, who has been with them since she was eighteen months old. She was born on the 30th

of November, 1896, and is a daughter of their eldest son, Thomas Martin. All of their children were born in McLean county, Illinois, with the exception of the eldest daughter.

The religious faith of Mr. and Mrs. Tilghman is manifested through their connection with the Methodist Episcopal church, with which he united on the 23d of February, 1858, and he has held all of the offices it is possible for a layman to fill. His fraternal relations are confined to his membership in Alamo Lodge, No. 547, A. F. & A. M. He is one of the oldest if not the oldest Mason in the county, having been affiliated with this order for forty-eight years. Mr. Tilghman cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln, and he has ever since given his support to the men and measures of the republican party. While residing on the farm he was elected trustee of Williams township, and served in this capacity for six years. He was formerly a stockholder of the State Bank of Williams, and served as a director of this institution for nine years, but is no longer actively identified with business enterprises of any nature. He is a most estimable man, and is held in high regard in the community, where young and old accord him the respect and veneration earned by an honorable, well spent life. Three years ago, in 1909, Mr. Tilghman visited the old homestead and the scenes of his childhood in Michigan, and while there attended an old settlers picnic, and had the distinction of being the oldest native of Oakland county present on that occasion.

WILLIAM GERBER.

William Gerber, who is at present mayor of Williams, Iowa, was born in Bavaria, Germany, on the 19th of February, 1855. He is a son of Jacob Gerber, who was born and reared in Germany to the age of eighteen years, when he emigrated to the United States. He subsequently returned to the fatherland and there he was married to Miss Barbara Ziegler, the mother of our subject. After the death of his wife, Jacob Gerber decided to return to the United States, feeling assured that his children would find here better opportunities and greater advantages than were afforded in the old country, so in 1868 he took passage for America accompanied by all members of his family with the exception of his eldest daughter, who has always made her home in Germany. They first located in Peoria, Illi-

nois, but after a sojourn there of about two months continued their journey westward to Hamilton county. Soon after his arrival here, Mr. Gerber bought a farm south of Webster City, which was the family home for many years. The following children were born to wife of Jacob Becker, who is living on the old family homestead in Bavaria; Caroline, who married Ernest Schroeder, of Blairsburg, Iowa; Daniel, who is living in South Dakota; Charles, of Webster City; Louis N., who for three terms served as county superintendent of Hamilton county, but is now residing in Mount Vernon, Iowa; William, the subject of this review; Kate, the wife of Samuel McCoombs, of Webster City; Anna, who died at the age of four years; and Mary, whose death occurred when she was nine. The father passed the remainder of his life in this county, his death occurring in Webster City, in 1904.

William Gerber was a lad of thirteen years when he accompanied his father to America. He was reared on the home farm in this county and completed his education in the district schools, after which he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. He subsequently engaged in farming on his own account, following this vocation until 1890, when he removed to Williams and went into the drug and jewelry business with his brother Louis N., under the firm name of Gerber Brothers. They were associated in the conduct of this enterprise for some time, and after withdrawing from it, Mr. Gerber purchased the pool room and bowling alley he now operates, in connection with which he also handles a stock of tobacco and cigars.

In March, 1878, Mr. Gerber was married to Miss Amelia A. Bruseau, who was born at Hook's Point, Hamilton county, Iowa, March 30, 1861, and is a daughter of William and Adeline (Lavalla) Bruseau, who passed the latter years of their lives in this county. Mrs. Gerber is the eldest of the seven children born to her parents, the other members of the family being as follows: Riley, who is a resident of Fremont, Nebraska; Albert, who lives in Memphis, Tennessee; Stella, the wife of Albert Hartman, of Alberta, Canada; George, of Memphis, Tennessee; Minnie, now Mrs. DeFrance, of Webster City; and Harry, who lives in Omaha, Nebraska. They were all born and reared in Hamilton county. Mr. and Mrs. Gerber have had three children, all of whom are at home: Harvey H., who was born December 29, 1878; Ada J., whose birth occurred on the 10th of March, 1880; and Jessie M., whose natal day was October 15, 1892. After graduating from the Williams high school, they engaged in teaching and the two daughters are still following that

profession, Miss Ada having the seventh and eighth grades of the Williams school, and Miss Jessie having a district school in the vicinity of her home. The two elder children were born near Webster City, but the youngest is a native of Williams.

Mrs. Gerber and the two daughters belong to the Presbyterian church, and fraternally Mr. Gerber is affiliated with Alamo Lodge, No. 547, A. F. & A. M.; Silver Link Lodge, No. 458, I. O. O. F.; Williams Camp, No. 1844, M. W. A.; and he is correspondent of Yeomen Lodge, No. 618, of Williams. His political allegiance is given to the democratic party in national elections but he casts an independent ballot for county and municipal officers, giving his support to those candidates he deems most likely to serve the highest interests of the people, regardless of party affiliation. He served for seventeen years as councilman, and he has also discharged the duties of justice of the peace and been a member of the school board. At present he serves as mayor of Williams and discharges his duties of this, the highest office in the gift of the city, in a most commendable manner. The greater part of Mr. Gerber's life has been passed in Hamilton county, of the early history of which he possesses a wide and authentic knowledge, being regarded as one of the best informed men in Williams on this particular topic.

LEWIS WESTRE.

Lewis Westre engages in general farming and stock-raising in Lyon township, this county, where his mother owns eighty acres of land located on section 29. He is the seventh in order of birth of the eight children born of the marriage of Oliver and Bertha (Ole-son) Westre, his natal day being the 13th of August, 1883. The parents were born, reared and married in Norway, whence they emigrated to America about 1874, coming direct to Mahaska county, Iowa. There they purchased eighty acres of land, which the father cultivated until 1882, when he sold his farm and coming to Hamilton county invested the proceeds in a quarter of section 29, a portion of which is now owned by our subject's mother. Mr. Westre here continued his agricultural pursuits until his death in June, 1903, at the age of sixty-three years. The mother, who is now sixty-seven, continues to reside on her homestead.

The entire life of Lewis Westre has been passed on the farm,

where he now resides. In the acquirement of an education he attended the district schools until he had mastered the common branches, and then devoted his entire attention to the work of the farm, remaining at home until he was married. His principal crops are corn and oats and in connection with general farming he engages in raising stock. The land is all fenced and tiled and under high cultivation, and annually produces abundant harvests. The improvements on the place were made during the lifetime of his father, and as they were substantially constructed originally and have been kept in repair, are in good condition.

On the 6th of March, 1912, Mr. Westre was married to Miss Amy Johnston, a daughter of James and Elizabeth (Stevenson) Johnston, natives of Ireland. They came to America in early life and were married in Connecticut, but in 1891 they came to Iowa, locating in Wright county. There the mother passed away in 1904, at the age of forty-five years. The father, who is now sixty, resides in Wright county, where he follows the carpenter's trade. He takes an active interest in all local affairs, particularly of a political nature, and for eight years held the office of marshal at Dows. Mrs. Westre, who was born on the 12th of April, 1887, is the eldest of three children born to her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Westre attend the Norwegian Lutheran church, and in politics he is a republican. He is one of the energetic, ambitious and capable young men of his community, and is directing his undertakings with a foresight and intelligence which give assurance of constantly increasing success.

E. E. ASHPOLE.

E. E. Ashpole, a substantial and enterprising farmer living on section 4, Blairsburg township, Hamilton county, Iowa, is one of the prosperous and successful native sons of the state and is giving the most forceful and active years of his life to promoting agricultural development in the section where he was born. He has been during his entire career not only a loyal and enterprising citizen but a cooperative factor in the development and upbuilding of his community and his present prosperity is only a part of the broader success which has come to him as an individual force in progress. Mr. Ashpole was born near the present limits of Webster City, Iowa, on



MR. AND MRS. E. E. ASHPOLE

October 7, 1866. His parents were Frederick and Lucy Elizabeth (Lee) Ashpole, both natives of Huntingdonshire, England. They came to America at an early day and settled in Clinton county, Iowa. They made the trip overland to Hamilton county in an emigrant wagon and settled on a farm in Cass township. The father broke the soil and developed his holdings from a raw stretch of prairie land into an improved property. The family suffered all the hardships and trials incident to pioneer life when there were practically no roads through the township and when the facilities for operating the farm were meager and ineffectual. The elder Mr. Ashpole remained upon his original holdings for eleven years and at the end of that time was considered one of the substantial and enterprising agriculturists in Hamilton county. He died in Blairsburg township, in 1903, at the age of seventy-five years. His wife died while on a visit in Clarion, Wright county, Iowa, on December 25, 1910, when she was eighty-five years old. To their union were born twelve children, six sons and six daughters, but only six are now living as follows: Cyrus, of Thompson, Iowa; Stillman, of Clarion, this state; Mrs. Mary Carpenter, a resident of Thompson; E. E., of this review; Mrs. Stella Hock, of Knox, North Dakota; and Albert, of Bagley, Iowa. The three eldest children were born in Clinton county, Iowa.

E. E. Ashpole has spent his entire life in Iowa and from his earliest childhood has been identified with the agricultural development of this state. He was educated in the public schools and aided his father in the work of his farm, gaining when he was still very young a personal experience in the details of planting and harvesting the crops. His farm today comprises eighty acres of the choicest land in Blairsburg township and is a model for every agricultural enterprise in this state. It is equipped with the latest devices in farming machinery, Mr. Ashpole taking a great interest in all those inventions which during the past ten years have changed agricultural conditions in the middle west. His fields, practically and intelligently operated, yield annually abundant harvests. His barns, granaries and other outbuildings are clean and sanitary and of modern construction and his farm is an exemplification of what can be accomplished by intelligently directed effort combined with progressive methods.

Mr. Ashpole has been twice married, his first union being with Miss Minnie King, to which union was born one son, Glenn. On October 7, 1908, Mr. Ashpole was again wedded, his second union

being with Miss Magdalena Eckstein, who was born in Webster City, Iowa, in 1876 and who is a daughter of John and Clarinda (Olmstead) Eckstein. Mrs. Ashpole is one of thirteen children born to her parents, as follows: John L., residing in Wisconsin; Mrs. Elizabeth Monroe, of Webster City; Eddie and Clara, both deceased; Mrs. Ashpole; W. J., of Algona, Iowa; N. C., also residing in Webster City; Mrs. Edith Ashpole, of Wright county; Mrs. Edna Butler, of Rutland, Iowa; Frank, of Chicago, Illinois; Ella, who has also passed away; Fred, residing in Perry, Iowa; and Clark, a twin brother of Fred, whose home is in Kellogg, Idaho. To Mr. and Mrs. Ashpole has been born one daughter, Helen Maurine, whose birth occurred on the 22d of July, 1909.

In his political affiliations Mr. Ashpole is a member of the republican party and has been school director and road supervisor. He is a prominent Mason holding membership in the lodge. He has seen the development of his section of Iowa which in his boyhood **had not entirely passed beyond the conditions of a frontier territory.** He has not only witnessed the gradual evolution into its present flourishing state but as a progressive and public-spirited citizen has borne his part in the general upbuilding.

WILLIAM H. RICK.

One of the rapidly developing and thriving business enterprises of Williams is the furniture establishment of William H. Rick, which he has been conducting with unusual success for the past eleven years, running in connection therewith an undertaking department. He is a native of Princeton, Bureau county, Illinois, his birth having occurred there on February 20, 1868, and a son of John G. and Magdalena (Saunders) Rick. The parents were both born and reared in Germany, but in early life they emigrated to the United States and for a time resided in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Later they removed to Illinois, locating in Princeton, where they resided until 1869, when they settled in Buda, Illinois. Nine years later, in 1878, they came to Hamilton county, Iowa, locating on a farm two miles east of Williams, which was their home for many years. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Rick numbers four, our subject being the third in order of birth. The others are as follows: Theodore J., a resident of Rutland, Iowa, who was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on

May 15, 1861; George C., who was born in Princeton, Illinois, on the 13th of March, 1867; and Nellie C., born March 2, 1870, the wife of Robert P. Orris, a native of Buda, Illinois, but now a resident of Lehigh, Webster county, Iowa. The father, who was a veteran of the Civil war passed away in Williams on the 2d of April, 1911, but the mother is still living and continues to make her home in this city.

William H. Rick was a child of eighteen months when his parents removed to Buda, Illinois, and a lad of nine years when they settled in Hamilton county. He obtained his education in the common schools and was early trained to habits of thrift and industry, which qualities have been dominant factors in promoting his success. In 1885, at the age of seventeen years, he left the farm and came to Williams to take a position in the store of Crabtree & Morrison, having decided upon a commercial career in preference to agricultural labors. He was identified with this enterprise for sixteen years, although during that period the store passed under a different management, and the fact that he was retained by the different proprietors is substantial evidence of his efficiency and trustworthiness. In 1901, Mr. Rick resigned his position and on March 1, of that year, opened the doors of his own business establishment, in the upbuilding of which he has met with more than an average degree of success. He had become widely known to the retail trade of Williams and the surrounding country during the long period of his clerkship and had built up a large personal following. He had already established a reputation for trustworthiness and reliability which commended him to the confidence of the community, while his accommodating manner made it a pleasure to deal with him, so that he was accorded a large patronage from the first. Mr. Rick is a judicious buyer, and carefully selects his stock to meet the varied tastes and requirements of his patrons. He keeps a large assortment of household furniture, carpets, rugs and curtains and in connection with this he maintains an undertaking department, that is complete in every respect.

On Christmas day, 1891, Mr. Rick was married to Miss Eva L. Johnson, who was born in Grant county, Wisconsin, on February 9, 1872. She came to Hamilton county in 1881 with her parents, Truman G. and Margaret (Carey) Johnson, both of whom are now deceased, the mother having died in Rose Grove township in December, 1890, while the father passed away in Williams in September, 1910. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Johnson numbered five, Mrs.

Rick being the second in order of birth. The others are as follows: Walter, who is a resident of Dows, Iowa; Truman J., who lives in Webster City, this state; Edward N., who is a resident of Williams township; and Anna, the wife of John McCarley, of Williams. They are all natives of Grant county, Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Rick have two sons: Harry A., who was born on the 10th of July, 1894, and was graduated from the Williams high school in 1909, and is now a sophomore at Grinnell College; and Carroll G., whose birth occurred on the 14th of August, 1899.

The parents are members of the Presbyterian church, and fraternally Mr. Rick is affiliated with Alamo Lodge, No. 547, A. F. & A. M.; and Williams Camp, No. 1844, M. W. A. His political allegiance he accords the republican party, and although he is not remiss in matters of citizenship he has never sought political honors. He is one of the substantial, diligent, enterprising and progressive citizens of the community, where he is accorded the esteem which justly belongs to every man who utilizes his opportunities to the best advantage. He is meeting with success in the development of his business, owns an attractive and comfortable home and is rearing his children to be useful members of society,—in fact, he is a desirable citizen and a credit to his community.

BENJAMIN F. VORHES.

Benjamin F. Vorhes, junior member of the firm of Vorhes Brothers and manager of the Williams elevator and business of the company, was born in Athens county, Ohio, on the 5th of October, 1863. He is a son of Peter and Sarah Jane (Jolley) Vorhes, both natives of Washington county, Pennsylvania, the father's natal day being the 23d of February, 1830, and that of the mother December 23, 1831. They removed to Ohio in the early pioneer days and there for many years the father engaged in agricultural pursuits. He now resides in Albany, Athens county, that state, with a daughter, Mrs. Vorhes having passed away on the 4th of February, 1908. In the paternal line the family is of Dutch extraction and trace their descent in an unbroken line from one of the first settlers of New Amsterdam. A portion of the original land grant is still in possession of some of the descendants, who have now held the title for nearly three hundred years. The Jolleys are an old Pennsylvania family,

the parents of Mrs. Vorhes having been pioneers of Washington county. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Vorhes, as follows: Ernest D., who was born August 21, 1854, a member of the firm of Vorhes Brothers and a resident of Webster City, Iowa; Edith, whose birth occurred Christmas day, 1856, now residing in Ohio with the father; Hattie, who died at the age of sixteen years; Benjamin F., our subject; and Luther, who died when he was seven years of age. After completing the common-school course, those who attained maturity, with the exception of Benjamin F., continued their educations in the Ohio University.

Benjamin F. Vorhes was reared amid the refining influences of a good home, and at the usual age became a student in the common schools, and after completing the course there he attended the academy of Albany. He remained in his native state until 1886, when he came to Iowa, first locating in Woodbury county, which continued to be his place of residence for five years. In 1891, he came to Williams and became associated in business with his brother under the firm name of Vorhes Brothers. They have an elevator in Williams and another in Brushy, Webster county, and engage in buying and selling grain, in connection with which they also deal in coal. They have a well organized business and are meeting with financial success in the promotion of its development.

In Athens county, Ohio, on the 30th of June, 1888, Mr. Vorhes was married to Miss Sadie Dent, who was born on the 23d of January, 1869. She is also a native of Athens county and there she was reared to womanhood, acquiring her education in the common schools and the Ohio State University. Mrs. Vorhes is a member of the same family as Mrs. Grant, the wife of General U. S. Grant, and is a daughter of Shiveley and Malvina (Evans) Dent, natives of Ohio, the father having been born in Belmont county. Mr. and Mrs. Dent are both living and reside in Athens county, Ohio. They are the parents of the following children: Elmira; A. E.; Octa, deceased; Sadie, the wife of our subject; Evans; Royal; and Bessie. All of the children living are married. Mr. and Mrs. Vorhes have two children: Arthur Dent, who was born in Woodbury county, Iowa, on the 22d of December, 1890, and after completing his course in the Williams high school, entered Highland Park College, at Des Moines; and Nona Bess, whose birth occurred in Williams, August 30, 1898. She is a high-school student and will be graduated with the class of 1913. Mr. Vorhes owns his residence, which is one of

the attractive properties of the town and is thoroughly modern in its appointments.

The family are members of the Presbyterian church, and fraternally Mr. Vorhes is affiliated with Alamo Lodge, No. 547, A. F. & A. M. He gives his political support to the republican party and has served as a member of the board of education and has also represented his ward in the town council. He is a well informed man, has a well chosen library containing representative works of the best historians.

CLAUDE V. CAMPBELL.

Claude V. Campbell, proprietor and editor of the Jewell Record, was born in Story county, this state, on the 13th of December, 1882. He is the second in order of birth in a family of six, his parents being J. A. and Ada (Hall) Campbell, also natives of Story county. The father, who was born on the same farm as his son, devoted his energies to agricultural pursuits until 1896, when he withdrew from the work of the fields and went to Ames. There for a time he dealt in real estate but he subsequently engaged in the grain and coal business, which he is still following. The grandparents in both lines were homesteaders in Story county, with the progress and development of which the families have been actively identified for three generations.

Reared at home in the acquirement of his education, Claude V. Campbell attended the public schools of Ames. He was graduated from the high school with the class of 1900, and subsequently enrolled in the Iowa State College, from which institution he was awarded his degree in 1904. After leaving college he obtained a position as reporter on the Webster City Journal, where he acquired a general knowledge of the newspaper business. From there he came to Jewell Junction and bought a half interest in the Record and two years later he bought out his partner, thus becoming sole proprietor of the paper. He subsequently extended the scope of his activities by the purchase of the Stanhope Mail and the Randall Roundabout, which he consolidated with the Record, maintaining a separate department for each. In 1911 he added Kamrar to his circuit. Mr. Campbell is an active, enterprising man, as is evidenced by his paper, the columns of which heartily indorse every progressive movement and enthusiastically cooperate in

promoting the welfare of the community. He possesses high standards of citizenship and, fully appreciating the power of the press in influencing public opinion, is absolutely fearless in his denunciation of wrong, but equally ready to commend good. His circulation list carries the names of fourteen hundred and fifty subscribers, and in connection with the publication of his paper he engages in job printing for which he is well equipped, his plant, valued at six thousand dollars, being more modern and complete than is usually found in a town of this size.

Mr. Campbell is a member of the republican county committee and the columns of his paper stanchly support the men and measures of this party. He was formerly identified with the Iowa National Guard and for three years held the office of second sergeant in Company C, Fifty-fifth Regiment. In his religious views he is a Lutheran and is affiliated with the Norwegian church of that denomination. Mr. Campbell possesses many admirable traits of character and is popular in local business and social circles, being numbered among the representative citizens of the town.

OLIVER G. NELSON.

Oliver G. Nelson has for five years been postmaster of Ellsworth and here he also engages in the real-estate business. He is a native of Lincoln township, Hamilton county, his birth having occurred on the 10th of June, 1881. His parents are Nels J. and Emma (Jacobs) Nelson, who are mentioned at greater length elsewhere in this work.

Oliver G. Nelson was reared at home and at the usual age began his education in the common schools of this county, completing his course of study at Jewell College. His health failed about the time he was ready to begin his business career and for several years thereafter he was unable to do anything. Later he went to Des Moines to receive medical attention and while there worked in a real-estate office. He subsequently purchased a half interest in the Empire Land Agency, being identified with this enterprise for three years. At the expiration of that time he came to Ellsworth, and has ever since been engaged in the real-estate business here, making a specialty of Texas lands. On the 1st of November, 1907, he was appointed postmaster, the duties of which office he has filled with general satisfaction to the community.

On the 15th of April, 1908, Mr. Nelson was united in marriage to Miss Lena Reisetter, a daughter of Osmund and Adolphina (Jaastad) Reisetter, natives of Norway. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson have become the parents of two children: Elmer Arnold, who is three years of age; and Orvill Noel, who is a babe of fifteen months.

The family attend the Lutheran church, in which the parents hold membership. The political support of Mr. Nelson is accorded to the republican party, and for three years he held the office of township assessor.

EDWARD PAYSON LYON.

Edward Payson Lyon has for forty-two years been identified with the agricultural development of Williams township, where he owns a valuable farm of one hundred and fifty-nine acres. He was born in Salisbury, Herkimer county, New York, on the 22d of October, 1838, and is a son of David N. and Deborah (Peek) Lyon, also natives of the Empire state, the father's natal day being in 1809, and that of the mother in 1813. They passed the early years of their domestic life in the state of New York, but in 1844 they removed to Ohio, locating in Doylestown, Wayne county, where the father passed away the same year. He was long survived by the mother, whose death occurred in 1879. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Lyon numbered six: Cornelia, who is a resident of Wooster, Ohio; William, who makes his home in Doylestown, Ohio; Edward P., our subject; Rachel, the deceased wife of James Frank; David, a Presbyterian minister, formerly a missionary in China, but now the pastor of a church in Seneca Falls, New York; and Sarah, the wife of A. B. Chidester, of Wooster, Ohio. After the death of the father the mother married a Mr. Chidester, and to them was born one son, Samuel Willis, a Presbyterian minister, who has for many years been in charge of the church of that denomination at Waukegan, Illinois.

The first six years in the life of Edward Payson Lyon were passed in his native state. His education was acquired in the common and subscription schools of Ohio, in which state he resided until 1856. In 1862, he enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, remaining in the service until the close of hostilities. His regiment was first assigned to the Fourteenth Corps under the command of Colonel A. B. Moore, who was suc-



MR. AND MRS. EDWARD P. LYON

ceeded by Colonel Douglas Hatman. The company to which he belonged was captured by Morgan at Hartsville, Tennessee, but they were paroled three days later and sent to Rosecrans camp at Nashville. They were subsequently assigned to Sherman's army and were with this general when he made his famous march. Mr. Lyon was in many of the notable engagements of the war, among them Missionary Ridge, Chickamauga and Peachtree Creek, more than half of the right wing of the regiment having been killed in the latter battle in less than half an hour. After the close of hostilities he participated in the grand review of the army at Washington, and was mustered out in Chicago in 1865. Following his discharge, Mr. Lyon resumed his agricultural pursuits in Illinois, where he continued to reside until 1871, when he came to Iowa and purchased the farm where he is now living in Williams township. He has prospered in his undertakings and his is one of the best improved and most highly cultivated farms in the community, and annually yields him a goodly income.

On the 6th of March, 1866, Mr. Lyon was married to Miss Flora M. Marsh, who was born in La Porte county, Indiana, on June 11, 1838, and is a daughter of Harry and Catharine W. (Smith) Marsh. The father was born in Connecticut in 1800, but in his early manhood settled in the west and died in Illinois on March 4, 1880. He was a member of an old New England colonial family and was a veteran of the War of 1812. The mother was born in Newburg, New York, in 1807, and was a daughter of Hezekiah Smith, who was a soldier in the Revolution. She passed away in Lee county, Illinois, shortly before the father, her death occurring in February, 1880. Mr. and Mrs. Marsh were the parents of ten children: Sheldon, a veteran of the Civil war, who resides in Missouri; Mrs. Lyon; DeWitt Clinton, also a veteran of the Civil war, of Tobias, Nebraska; Adeline and Angeline, twins, the former the deceased wife of Lyman Messecar, and the latter Mrs. Ross Harmon, of Creston, Illinois; Catharin, the wife of Judge Farrand, of Dixon, Illinois; Miles, who lives at Greene, Iowa; Dorinda, who married Oskar Kuhn, and resides in the vicinity of Greene, this state; Henry G., who is also a resident of Greene; and Maria, who died in infancy. The eldest member of the family was born in New York state, but the others are natives of Indiana.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyon have had four children: Willie E., who was born in Lee county, Illinois, on the 6th of January, 1867, superintendent of the Gade Engine Works at Iowa Falls, this state; David,

who was born March 28, 1870, and died July 27, of the same year; a daughter, who died in infancy; and Elbert Percy, who was born on the homestead in Williams township, October 10, 1878, and is residing with his parents.

The family have long been attendants of the Presbyterian church at Williams, of which Mr. and Mrs. Lyon are charter members. He is affiliated with C. Fairchild Post, No. 431, G. A. R., of Williams, and his political allegiance he accords to the republican party. He served for several years as assessor in his township. Mr. Lyon has always led a quiet, unobtrusive life, and has never sought to figure prominently in public affairs, but he has wielded a strong influence in his community by reason of his high standards, upright principles and incorruptible integrity as evidenced in his business transactions and daily conduct. Among his most highly prized possessions is a letter written the day after his birth and bearing the date of October 23, 1838, prior to the advent of the envelope and at a period when correspondence was the luxury of the few, as postage on all letters was then ten cents.

ISAAC SMITH.

Perseverance and diligence have been the salient factors in the career of Isaac Smith, who is numbered among the highly successful and enterprising agriculturists of Independence township, where he owns two hundred and forty acres of well improved and fertile land located on section 21 and 16. He was born in New York city on the 24th of May, 1848, and is a son of David and Sarah (Richardson) Smith. The parents were natives of England, whence they emigrated to the United States in early life and were married in New York city in 1846. There the father, who was a shoemaker, followed his trade for nine years, but at the expiration of that time he removed with his family to Syracuse, where he engaged in the same occupation during the ensuing four years. Their next removal was to a little village in the vicinity of Cortland, and there he resumed his trade, which he followed at that point until 1863. In April of that year he joined a colony going to Yankton, South Dakota, leaving his family in New York state. On his way westward he stopped at Fort Dodge, this state, coming from there to Webster City, where he worked at his trade until August, 1863, when he returned to New York, and in

November, of the same year, came back to Webster City with his entire family. He remained here until 1885, when he again started westward, leaving his wife and family in Webster City. For two years thereafter he worked at his trade in Barber county, Kansas, going from there to California, where he passed away on the 7th of September, 1893. The mother's death occurred three days later in Webster City, the father being seventy-six years of age at the time of his demise and the mother sixty-one. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Smith numbered four, of whom our subject is the eldest.

The education of Isaac Smith was obtained in the public schools of the state of New York, where he passed the first fifteen years of his life. After coming to Iowa he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits and has ever since followed this vocation. At the age of twenty-one years he began farming for himself, having acquired one hundred and sixty acres of prairie land, which formed the nucleus of his present homestead. He subsequently extended the boundaries of his farm until he now holds the title to two hundred and forty acres, all of which is under high cultivation and annually yields abundant harvests which amply reward him for his hard labor. Mr. Smith has all of his land fenced hog tight and his fields are tiled. In connection with general farming he makes a specialty of breeding and raising Duroc Jersey hogs and he also buys and feeds cattle for the market. He is diligent and enterprising as well as progressive in his methods and takes great pride in keeping up his place, the general appearance of which evidences the exercise of sound judgment and systematic supervision in its operation.

In 1871, Mr. Smith was married to Miss Maila Churchill, who is a native of Michigan, her birth occurring on the 26th of January, 1853, and the youngest of the three children born to James and Maila (Harwood) Churchill. The parents were born and reared in Michigan, and there they were also married. They subsequently came to Iowa, locating in Blackhawk county, which was their place of residence for many years. The father passed away in 1875, at the age of sixty-four years, while the mother was fifty-six at the time of her death, which occurred in 1878. Mr. and Mrs. Smith are the parents of three daughters: Isabel, who married Charles Pierce and passed away at the age of twenty-six, leaving a child, which is being reared by her parents; Mamie, who married Frank Seamonds of Kamrar, and is the mother of one child; and Emma,

who, with her husband, E. W. Brewer, and their child, is living at home.

The family attend the Methodist Episcopal church, and fraternally Mr. Smith is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, being a member of Webster Lodge, No. 342. In his political views he is republican and has served for six years as member of the school board. From early youth Mr. Smith has been entirely dependent upon his own resources, and such success as has come to him through the intervening years is the result of earnest, persistent effort and the determination of purpose that refuses to acknowledge defeat. He is held in high regard in his community, where he has resided for forty-three years and is known to be a man of sterling worth and integrity.

PETER LEWIS PETERSON.

Peter Lewis Peterson is a native son of Iowa, whose life record has been a credit to his community, being in all its phases upright, straightforward and honorable. He has by capably and scientifically cultivating one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 11, Liberty township, Hamilton county, gained a comfortable fortune for himself and has added to the resources of his section a model agricultural enterprise. Mr. Peterson was born in a log cabin near Randall, Hamilton county, on February 19, 1868. His parents were Nels and Larcina (Anderson) Peterson, both natives of Norway. The father spent his childhood and early manhood in his native country. He came to America in 1863 and in July, of that year, settled in Hamilton county, Iowa. He was among the pioneers in the settlement of the state. There were at that time no railroads and Mr. Peterson was obliged to come to Hamilton county overland from Nevada, Iowa, which was then the terminus of the Northwestern Railroad. Many of the houses were log cabins, there were no educational facilities and there were still many reminders of the frontier days. Mr. Peterson cultivated the soil and was steadily successful. He is now living at Randall, Iowa, and his wife is also surviving and makes her residence in the same city. To their union were born eight children, of whom Peter Lewis, of this review, is the eldest. The others are: Mrs. Swenson, of Fort Dodge, Iowa; Mrs. Owenson, of Randall;

Regina, of Fort Dodge; Agnes, of Randall; Martha, deceased; John, residing at Randall; and Carrie, at home.

Peter Lewis Peterson is a type of the native sons of Iowa, who have been successful in adding to the resources of the state. He grew to manhood in Hamilton county and has maintained a continuous residence in this section. He has been identified with agriculture since his early childhood, first assisting his father and finally as an independent farmer. He is now numbered among the substantial and prosperous citizens of his section, owning one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 11, Liberty township. His farm is highly cultivated and equipped with all modern conveniences and accessories, including the latest machinery to facilitate the work in all the departments of agriculture. He has given his own personal and practical efforts to making his farm flourishing and has been rewarded for his persistent and well directed industry by a comfortable fortune.

Mr. Peterson was married in Morris, Illinois, on December 17, 1890, to Miss Rena James, who was born in Norway on November 19, 1867. Her father, Jens Gard, was born in Norway and is still living at Etne, that country, at the age of seventy-seven years. Her mother, who was in her maidenhood Miss Engeboarg, lived and died in her native country, her death occurring in 1907. To them were born six children, as follows: Mrs. Anna Frette, of Norway; Mrs. Engebart Waagen, of Centerville, South Dakota; Mrs. Peterson; Mrs. Hallan Thorson, also of Centerville; James, of Owatonna, Minnesota; and Jacob, residing in Norway. All of these children were born in the land of the midnight sun. Mrs. Peterson passed away in Liberty township, on July 16, 1904, leaving five children, namely: Truman, born in 1891; Hendrick, born June 29, 1894; John, January 29, 1896; Carl, August 19, 1900; and Louisa, March 30, 1902. All are residing with their father on the home farm and received their education in the district schools of their native section.

Mr. Peterson is a consistent republican and is active in the affairs of the local party organization. He has served as delegate to several county conventions and has recently served in this capacity from Hamilton county in the state convention of 1912. He has been township trustee for twelve years and has done able and efficient work as school director. His public activities are distinguished by a high conscientiousness and a sense of his responsibility to his constituents which make him a remarkable type of broad-minded and intelligent official. He affiliates with the Norwegian Lutheran church of Rose

Grove. Outside of his business interests Mr. Peterson's tastes incline toward the musical art. He was one of the organizers of the Riverside Cornet Band of Randall, which was founded in 1879 and in which organization he has taken a deep interest until it was disbanded. For nine years Mr. Peterson was an active member of this band, in which he played an E-flat alto, and his virtuosity upon this instrument was perfected to a remarkable degree.

Agriculture requires for its successful development a practical knowledge of the details of soil cultivation in all its branches and personal experience in farming. It calls also for business discrimination of a high order and for judicious supervision and management. Mr. Peterson has manifested these qualifications in his life as an agriculturist and his native state is today richer in resources and citizenship for his useful, straightforward and unassuming life.

FRANK O. SATTER.

Frank O. Satter, one of the proprietors of the Ellsworth News, which he has been publishing since 1906, was born in Cass county, Iowa, on the 22d of June, 1876. He is a son of Andrew and Ida (Ostrus) Satter, who were born and reared in Illinois and there they were also married. In 1874 they came to Iowa, first locating in Cass county, where the father engaged in farming until 1892, when he disposed of his interests there and went to Palo Alto county. He purchased eighty acres of government land in the latter place and diligently applied himself to its further improvement and cultivation until 1907, when he withdrew from active work and removed to Ellsworth. Here he lived retired until his death, which occurred on the 22d of December, 1910, in his sixty-second year. The mother, who is fifty-one, still resides in Ellsworth.

The second in order of birth in a family of six, Frank O. Satter was reared at home and educated in the common schools. After leaving school he learned the barber's trade, and when he was twenty-one left home and went to Cylinder, this state, where he opened a shop, which he conducted for seven years. During that period he extended the scope of his activities by establishing a newspaper known as the "Cylinder Press," in connection with which he also conducted a job printing plant. He disposed of his paper when he sold his barber shop, and subsequently returned to Ellsworth. In 1906 he bought

the "Ellsworth News," which he conducted alone until the spring of 1912, when he took his brother, Otto A. Satter, into partnership with him. He possesses high standards of citizenship, upright principles and progressive ideas, and the columns of his paper heartily indorse every movement which will tend to promote the intellectual, moral, social or commercial welfare of the community. In connection with the publication of his paper he operates a job plant, and as the quality of his work is good, his terms reasonable and deliveries prompt, he has built up a lucrative trade. His circulation list carries eleven hundred names, the majority of his subscribers being located in the southern part of the county. He has a better equipment than is to be found in the average newspaper office in a town of this size, and values his plant at twenty-five hundred dollars.

In 1898, Mr. Satter was married to Miss Grace Harrison, who is the third in order of birth in a family of four, and was born in Palo Alto county, Iowa, on the 1st of January, 1882. She is a daughter of George and Anna (Bumbee) Harrison, natives of Wisconsin, in which state they were married and passed the early years of their domestic life. They came to Iowa in 1877, locating in Palo Alto county, where the father bought two hundred and forty acres of government land, and through diligence and perseverance converted it into one of the valuable farms of the county. He continued his agricultural pursuits until 1902, when he leased his homestead and bought a residence in Emmetsburg, where he is now living retired at the age of sixty-five years. The mother, who is also living, is fifty-five. Mr. and Mrs. Satter have had two children, both of whom died in infancy.

Politically Mr. Satter is a republican, and supports the candidates and principles of that party. Both he and Mrs. Satter manifest their religious faith through their affiliation with the United church, and number among the members of its congregation many stanch friends.

KNUD HANDLEND.

Knud Handlend, who is a well known and respected resident of Lincoln township, Hamilton county, is successfully engaged in the cultivation of one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he owns, located in Lincoln township. He was born in Norway, June 2, 1853, and is a son of Christopher and Engborough Handlend, both of whom were natives of Norway. The father followed farming for a

livelihood in his native land, where he died in 1898 and the mother died December 25, 1911.

Knud Handlend was reared at home and received his early education in his native land, where he remained until he was twenty-seven years of age. He then emigrated to America and located first in Lee county, Illinois, where he was engaged at work as a farm hand for two years. He then came to Marshalltown, Iowa, and took up work in one of the factories in that place, continuing in that work for the seven following years. He then purchased a farm in Marshall county, on which he was engaged in general farming for three years, after which time he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land located in Lincoln township, Hamilton county. On that property he established his home and has since continued to give his entire time to the cultivation and improvement of his land. Among the other improvements he has made on the property is that of a perfect tile drainage system. In addition to his farm property he is a stockholder in the Randall Lumber Company and also a stockholder in the Ellsworth Creamery Company.

Mr. Handlend was united in marriage to Miss Anna Kaltveldt in 1884. She is a daughter of Even and Anna Kaltveldt, both of whom are natives of Illinois. To Mr. and Mrs. Handlend six children have been born, namely: Elmer; Eddie, deceased; Matilda; Elma; Eddie, second of the name; and Cora. Mr. Handlend is affiliated with the republican party and is one of the present road supervisors of the township in which he lives. He and his family are members of the Lutheran church. Mr. Handlend is a man of well known integrity in business matters and is numbered among the successful up-to-date and enterprising farmers of the community in which he lives.

HARVEY B. TROTTER.

Harvey B. Trotter, who is living retired in Blairsburg, was one of the first to respond to the country's call for volunteers in '61, remaining in the service for more than three years. He was born in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, on the 25th of July, 1837, and is of Irish extraction, his parents, James and Eliza Trotter, having been born in the Emerald isle. In 1842, the family removed to Steubenville, Ohio, where they resided until after the opening of the war when they continued their journey westward to Iowa. The father passed



HARVEY B. TROTTER.

away at Talleyrand, this state, at the age of seventy-two years, but the mother was ninety-two at the time of her death, which occurred at Des Moines in 1900. They were the parents of the following children: Thomas, William, Mrs. Elizabeth Cable, James and Alexander, all of whom are deceased; Harvey B., our subject; Richard and John, twins, both of whom are deceased, the latter having died in infancy; Letitia, whose death occurred in childhood; and Mrs. Sarah Miller, of Webster City. The elder members of the family were born in Pennsylvania, and the younger ones in Ohio.

Harvey B. Trotter was a child of five years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Ohio, where he was reared to manhood and acquired his education. After leaving school he learned the trade of paper finishing, which occupation he was following when Fort Sumter was fired upon. Together with several of his fellow employes he responded to the call for volunteers by enlisting for ninety days in Company I, Twentieth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Cable, theirs being one of the first regiments to go to the front. When discharged upon the expiration of his period of service he came to Iowa, where his parents had removed while he was at the front. In the community in which they were residing the citizens were organizing a company for the infantry service and asked Mr. Trotter to join them, offering him a lieutenancy. He accepted, becoming a member of Company F, Eleventh Iowa Infantry, their regiment subsequently being attached to Crocker's famous brigade.

He remained in the service for three years, three months and eighteen days this time, and during that period participated in many notable conflicts, including Vicksburg and Corinth, and he was also with Sherman when he made his famous march to the sea. When mustered out he joined his brother in California, and finding plenty of work, for which he was well remunerated, and a delightful climate, remained on the Pacific coast for fifteen years. At the expiration of that time he returned to Iowa, and located on a farm in Blairsburg township, this county, where he followed agricultural pursuits until 1890. In the latter year, he disposed of his farming interests and went to Woolstock, Wright county, this state, and engaged in the restaurant business. Two years later he withdrew from this enterprise and returning to Hamilton county, purchased a residence in Blairsburg, which has ever since been his home.

Mr. Trotter has been married twice. His first union was with Miss Jane Dennison and they became the parents of three children: Charles B.; Mrs. Almira Fairbank, who is residing in Washington;

and Mrs. Laura May Worley, of Keokuk county, Iowa. The wife and mother passed away in 1882, and Mr. Trotter subsequently married Miss Nancy A. Moore, of Coatesville, Missouri, and to them have been born the following children: Ernest and Fred, who reside in Blairsburg; Elmer, who makes his home in Wisconsin; Harvey, who is a resident of Illinois; and May, Ralph and Dale, who are living at home. Mr. Trotter is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, belonging to the Webster City post, and his political allegiance is given to the republican party.

CLIFFORD A. WILKINSON.

Clifford A. Wilkinson, of the firm of Wilkinson Brothers, is regarded as one of the highly capable and promising young business men of Williams, where he has been identified with commercial activities for the past three years. He was born on a farm near Alden, Hardin county, Iowa, on November 19, 1884, and is the youngest son of William Austin and Elizabeth (Tomlinson) Wilkinson. The father is a native of Missouri and the mother of Grant county, Wisconsin, where they passed the early years of their married life. They subsequently came to Iowa and settled on a farm in Hardin county, in the cultivation of which the father was actively engaged for many years. He has now retired from the work of the fields and he and the mother are making their home in Alden. The other children of Mr. and Mrs. Wilkinson are as follows: Maude, who was born July 2, 1869, and married John H. Watson, of Hardin county; J. W., who is mentioned at greater length elsewhere in this work; and Walter, who was born on the 5th of March, 1876, and is residing in Quincy, Illinois.

The early years in the life of Clifford A. Wilkinson were passed on the home farm. In the acquirement of his preliminary education he attended the graded and high schools of Alden and subsequently matriculated in the dental department of the Iowa State University at Iowa City. He was a member of the United States Marine Corps for four years, spending half of that period in the Philippines, and has visited many of the principal ports of the world, and seen a large portion of the United States. In 1909, he became associated in the general mercantile business with his brother, J. William Wilkinson, in Williams, and they have met with gratifying success in the develop-

ment of their enterprise. They have an attractive store and through their diligence, accommodating methods and reasonable prices have managed to build up a trade that under their policy will prove substantial and permanent.

In Minneapolis, Minnesota, on the 15th of May, 1910, Mr. Wilkinson was married to Miss Mabel Nielsen, who was born in St. Paul, Minnesota, on the 20th of September, 1892, and is a daughter of N. C. and Anna (Petersen) Nielsen, natives of Denmark. The father makes his home in Minneapolis, but the mother is deceased, her death having occurred on January 2, 1901. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Nielsen number seven: Anna, the wife of Adolph Skogland, of Minneapolis; Jennie, now Mrs. J. K. Wynne, of Hopkins, Minnesota; Ada, who married George Schnelle, of St. Paul; Mrs. Wilkinson; Harold, who died on the 30th of May, 1907, at the age of fourteen years; and Ella and Helen, who are living in Minneapolis. Mrs. Wilkinson completed her education in the Minneapolis high school, which she attended for one year. To Mr. and Mrs. Wilkinson has been born one daughter, Irene Agatha, whose birth occurred in Williams, April 22, 1911.

Fraternally Mr. Wilkinson is affiliated with Radiant Lodge, No. 266, A. F. & A. M., and his political allegiance is given to the republican party. He is a wide-awake, enterprising young man, who has made a very favorable impression in the business circles of Williams and has won many stanch friends during the period of his residence here.

CHARLES M. ARTHUR.

Charles M. Arthur, who resides at 826 Second street, Webster City, owns and operates a farm of two hundred and sixty-four acres, located on section 17, Cass township. He was born in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, on the 29th of April, 1847, and is the eldest in a family of six children. His parents, Horace and Mary (Green) Arthur, were born, reared and married in the state of New York, whence they later removed to Wisconsin. There the father died in 1864, and four years later, the mother removed to Hamilton county, Iowa. She is still living at the venerable age of eighty-four years, and now makes her home with a daughter.

The first seventeen years in the life of Charles M. Arthur were passed in the state of his birth, where he was given the advantages of a common-school education. In 1864, he came to Hamilton county and for four years thereafter worked for a stock buyer. He subsequently embarked in the livery business on his own account, but seven years later disposed of his stable and engaged in buying and selling stock. He followed this occupation for eight years, and at the expiration of that period bought a creamery which he operated until 1887. In the latter year he disposed of his interests here and went to the Black Hills country, where for thirteen years he engaged in ranching and stock-raising. In 1900, he returned to Hamilton county and opened a restaurant in Webster City, which he successfully conducted for twelve years, and then sold it. He is now devoting his entire attention to the operation of his farm, which comprises two hundred and sixty-four acres and is located on section 17, Cass township. The entire tract is fenced, eighty acres of it hog tight and is well improved and equipped. His land is naturally drained and one hundred and fifty acres is under high cultivation and planted to such cereals as are used for the feeding of cattle. In connection with general farming he raises and buys and sells stocks and feeds cattle for the market, using for that purpose all the hay and grain he raises. His place is well adapted to stock-raising, as he has fine pasture and an abundance of water, his supply being obtained from a drilled well and the river. Mr. Arthur owns his residence in Webster City and a farm of one hundred and seventy-five acres in Hancock county, this state, which he rents out.

On the 13th of October, 1868, Mr. Arthur was married to Miss Martha Frank, a daughter of John and Anna (Bear) Frank. They were natives of Pennsylvania and there they were also reared and married, coming to Iowa in 1853. Upon their arrival here the father bought one hundred and twenty acres of land in the vicinity of Webster City, for which he paid eight dollars per acre. His energies were devoted to the improvement and cultivation of his farm during the remainder of his active life, and there he passed away in 1907, at the age of eighty-five years. He was survived by the mother who was ninety-one, when she died in May, 1911. They are buried in Graceland cemetery, this city. Mrs. Arthur, who was born on the 3d of November, 1848, is the second in order of birth in a family of four, and became the mother of one daughter, Kittie. Kittie Arthur married Ward Moore, of Pueblo, Colorado, in which city she passed away on August 22, 1893, and was laid to rest in the family lot in Graceland cemetery, this city. At her death she left a little daughter, Edna E.,

who was born on the 17th of August, 1893, and has been reared by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur, with whom she still makes her home.

The family affiliate with the Congregational church, and fraternally Mr. Arthur holds membership in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Brotherhood of American Yeomen and Woodmen of the World. In politics he is republican. He is widely known in Hamilton county, where he first located more than forty-eight years ago, and enjoys the esteem and respect of a large circle of acquaintances, as a man of high principles and integrity, who conducts his business transactions in a straightforward, upright manner.

JOTHAM N. LYON.

High in the annals of pioneerdom in Hamilton county stands the name of Jotham N. Lyon, who for more than forty years was actively and prominently identified with the progress and development of Boone township, where he owned a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which he had converted from raw prairie land into one of the best improved and most highly cultivated properties in the county.

Mr. Lyon was a native of the state of Indiana, his birth having occurred in Fountain county on the 1st of August, 1837. His father, Peter Lyon, was born in the vicinity of Cleveland, Ohio, in 1811, but in his early manhood he went to Illinois, and there he was married in 1833 to Miss Margaret Black, also a native of Ohio. Very soon after their marriage the young couple went to Wisconsin, but a year later they located in Indiana, making that their place of residence for two years. At the expiration of that time they returned to Illinois, settling in Vermilion county, where they made their home until 1852. In the latter year they came to Hamilton county and the father took up a half section of government land which he industriously cultivated with the assistance of his sons for sixteen years. There were very few settlers in Hamilton county at that time, and only one house stood on the present site of Webster City. The woods abounded with wild game of all kinds, deer being very plentiful, while herds of buffalo were frequently seen on the prairies. Peter Lyon soon became an expert hunter, his skill being developed very largely through his efforts to exterminate the wolves, which killed many pigs and smaller stock. In 1868 the father disposed of his interests here and again started westward, Jefferson county, Kansas, being his destination on

this occasion. There the mother passed away in February, 1885, and in April, 1889, Mr. Lyon disposed of his interests and returned to Hamilton county, making his home with his son, the subject of this review, until his death on the 20th of February, 1897. He is buried in the family lot in Graceland cemetery, Webster City. Nine children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Lyon, all of whom are now deceased with the exception of three, as follows: Mary A., the wife of Rufus Butler; Richard T., who is living in the state of Washington; and George, who is a resident of Hamilton county. Mr. Lyon gave his political support to the republican party and took an active interest in all local affairs, but never held office.

Jotham N. Lyon, who was the second child born to his parents, was a lad of fifteen years when the family located in Hamilton county. He remained at home until after the opening of the Civil war, when he enlisted in the Sixth Iowa Regiment of the Frontier Guards, where he served for fifteen months. After the Spirit Lake massacre in 1863 and 1864 his regiment was stationed at that point to guard the settlers whose safety was still menaced by the Indians. When mustered out Mr. Lyon returned home and resumed his agricultural pursuits. In 1865, he was married and soon after this event settled on the farm in Boone township, where his widow still resides. The remainder of his life was passed on his homestead, the further cultivation and improvement of which claimed his time and energies until his death on March 21, 1899. His youngest son, Wyatt E., has succeeded him in the management of the property and is engaging in both general farming and stock-raising, making a specialty of breeding Poland China hogs, and he also buys and feeds cattle for the market. The entire holding is fenced, the greater portion of it hog tight, while the fields are tiled and under high cultivation. The appearance and value of the property has been greatly enhanced by the recent erection of a nine-room residence, which is heated with a furnace and is thoroughly modern in all of its appointments.

On the 19th of October, 1865, Mr. Lyon was married to Miss Mary Willis, who was born in Adamsville, Ohio, March 15, 1844, and is the eldest of six children born to Robert and Louisa (Stanger) Willis, natives of Ohio. They came to Hamilton county in 1856 and Mr. Willis entered a homestead on a land warrant presented by the government to his father, who was a veteran of the War of 1812. Mr. Willis passed away in 1865, but he was long survived by his widow, whose death occurred in 1901. They are both buried in Webster City. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Lyon:

Archie, who died at the age of twenty-three years; Caddie, who is the wife of Arthur Maxon of Webster City and the mother of four children; Bessie, who upon completing the public schools attended a young ladies' seminary in Kentucky for a year and then took a course in the State University at Iowa City, and is now instructor in history in the Webster City high school; Benton, who was a student in the Washington School of Electrical Engineering, Washington, D. C., where he passed away on the 10th of February, 1907, at the age of twenty-seven years; Grace, who married Homer Butler, a farmer of this county, by whom she has had a daughter, Mariam; and Wyatt E., who married Alda McFarland of Webster City, by whom he has a daughter, Mary Elizabeth, born in 1912, and is living on the old homestead with his mother and sister.

Fraternally Mr. Lyon was a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and gave his political allegiance to the republican party. He was held in high esteem by the citizens of his community, toward the development and advancement of which he had contributed his full quota. He was progressive and public-spirited in matters of citizenship, and could always be relied upon to support every movement which would promote the welfare of the community. He hewed the logs for the first schoolhouse in his district, and in later years rendered most efficient service to the township while serving in the capacity of trustee. Mr. Lyon was in every way well adapted to meet the varied requirements of pioneering, both as a private citizen and a public official, as he was not only diligent and persevering, but was resourceful and adaptable, and in matters of business manifested discretion and foresight.

JACOB WILLIAMS.

Jacob Williams is a popular and well known citizen of Randall, Iowa, in which place he has filled the important position of postmaster since 1901. He was born in Norway in July, 1864, and is a son of Frederick and Isabelle Williams, both of whom were natives of Norway. The father was a lawyer by profession and was a member of the judicial bench in Norway, where he died in 1893. The mother is living in her native land at the age of seventy-six.

Jacob Williams was reared in his parents' home and received his early education in Norway. He remained under the parental roof

until he was twenty-five years of age. In 1889 he emigrated to America and located in Hamilton county, Iowa, where he was engaged at work as a farm hand for one and a half years. He then came to Randall and found employment with the Seymore & Henderson Company, who were proprietors of a hardware and implement business. As an employe of that firm he continued for five years, after which time he purchased the business, which he successfully conducted until 1911, when he sold out. In 1901 he received the appointment of postmaster for Randall, which position he has since continued to hold and now devotes his entire time to that office.

On April 1, 1897, Mr. Williams was united in marriage to Miss Anna Henderson, a daughter of Lars and Sarah Henderson, both of whom were natives of Norway. The father, with his wife and family emigrated to America in 1857, locating in Hamilton county, Iowa. The father later bought and improved land in Scott township in this county and continued to add to his original purchase until he was the owner of twenty-two hundred acres of land, all of which he successfully operated until the time of his death, which occurred in October, 1896. The mother is still living at the age of seventy-five, and maintains her home with the subject of this review. To Mr. and Mrs. Lars Henderson twelve children were born.

Mr. Williams belongs to the republican party and has served as clerk of Ellsworth township for a number of years. He and his wife are members of the Lutheran church of Randall. Mr. Williams is one of the highly respected citizens of Hamilton county and numbered among the enterprising and influential men in his part of the state.

ALEXANDER B. McNAB.

Alexander B. McNab, who is spending his latter years in well earned ease and retirement in Blairsville, where he owns an attractive and comfortable residence, belongs to the rapidly thinning ranks of the boys who donned the blue and went to the front in defense of the Union in the '60s. He is a native of New York, his birth having occurred in Livingston county, that state, on the 17th of December, 1837. His parents, John and Anna (McIntyre) McNab, were born and reared in Scotland, but in early life they settled in New York and there they both passed away at the age of seventy years.

MR. AND MRS. A. B. McNAB



Their family numbered thirteen children, all of whom were born and reared on a farm in Livingston county, New York, which the father secured from the government and cleared and placed under cultivation. Our subject was the twelfth child born to his parents, the others in order of birth being as follows: Christina, who passed away at the age of eighty years; Mrs. Helen Stewart, who was thirty at the time of her death; Peter, who was a resident of Colorado at the time of his demise; John, who died in Livingston county, New York, when he was sixty-five; Daniel, a resident of the same place, whose death also occurred at the age of sixty-five years; Mrs. Mary Milroy, who was living in Canada when she passed away; James and Malton, twins, the former a resident of Cassopolis, Michigan, where the latter was also residing at the time of his death, which occurred at the age of eighty years; Margaret, who makes her home in York, Livingston county, New York; Allen and Isabella, twins, both of whom are now deceased, the former having passed away in York at the age of fifty, while the latter was fifty-five at the time of her death; and Joseph A., a Presbyterian minister in Linn county, this state, who is now seventy-two years of age.

The early years in the life of Alexander B. McNab were passed on the old homestead in New York, where he became familiar with the practical methods of tilling the fields and caring for the crops, thus qualifying himself for the duties of an agriculturist. He subsequently removed to Illinois, first locating in McLean county, that state, whence he later removed to Livingston county, where he engaged in farming. In May, 1862, he enlisted in Livingston county in Company G, Sixty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and went to the front, where he remained for ninety days. At the expiration of his period of service he resumed his agricultural pursuits. In 1891, Mr. McNab removed with his family to Hamilton county, locating in Webster City. The next year he purchased two hundred and fifty acres of land, ninety acres of which were in Williams township and the remainder in Blairsburg township, which he cultivated until his retirement. He has since disposed of all of his land with the exception of ninety acres in Williams township.

At Bloomington, Illinois, on the 4th of June, 1864, Mr. McNab was married to Mariah Warrick, whose birth occurred in Ohio, November 17, 1839. She is a daughter of George and Eliza Warrick, who removed from Ohio to Illinois in 1855, first settling in Woodford county. Later they went to Livingston county, where they both passed away at the age of eighty years. They were the parents of

seven children: Mrs. Mary Johnson, who died when she was forty years of age; John, who was thirty at the time of his death; Mrs. McNab; Henry, who is residing at Fairbury, Illinois; Mrs. Harriet Skein who died at Pontiac, Illinois; Charles, who resides in the vicinity of Harris, Osceola county, Iowa; and Jacob, whose home is in Fairbury, Illinois. They were all born in Ohio, but were reared in Illinois. It is interesting to note that the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. McNab was performed by Judge David Davis, who came into prominence about that time through a controversy arising regarding his right to be retained as a member of the body of presidential electors, it being maintained that he became disqualified through subsequently accepting an appointment to the senate. His is the only case on record of a man having resigned from the bench of the supreme court to become a United States senator. Mr. and Mrs. McNab had two children: Mrs. Mariah Belle Pollock, who was born in McLean county, Illinois, in July, 1865, and passed away in Mercer county, that state, in 1905; and James Alexander, also a native of McLean county, who owns a farm in this vicinity, but is a resident of Osceola county, this state.

Mr. McNab cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln, and has ever since given his support to the republican party. He maintains relations with his old comrades through the medium of his connection with the Grand Army of the Republic, being affiliated with the post at Webster City. He was reared in the faith of the Presbyterian denomination but he and Mrs. McNab belong to the Congregational church of Blairsburg and number among its members many stanch friends. Mr. McNab is of the rugged Scotch type of character, honest and upright in his principles, absolutely loyal to every trust reposed in him and fearless in his defense of what he deems to be right.

EMMETT A. ROTHROCK.

Emmett A. Rothrock has given his energies and activities for many years to scientific agriculture. He is now cultivating one hundred and twenty acres of choice land on sections 10 and 11, Liberty township, Hamilton county, Iowa, and his success is the evidence of his well directed and intelligent labors. Mr. Rothrock was born in Butler county, in this state, on December 25, 1865, and his early life was spent upon a farm. His parents were Isaac and Mary (Snee)

Rothrock, natives of Pennsylvania, where his father was born in Mifflin county, and his mother in Union county on September 10, 1833. She was a daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth (Fisher) Snee, both of whom were natives of Union county, Pennsylvania, where they made their home and passed away. The elder Mr. Rothrock followed farming all during his active life, first in his native state and later in Butler county, Iowa. He and a brother participated in the Civil war. He spent his last years upon his property in Liberty township, Hamilton county, and died there in 1897. His wife survives him and makes her home upon her husband's farm. In their family were eight children, seven of whom are living, as follows: Mrs. Mary Lenhart, a resident of California; Sarah, living in Webster City, Iowa; Willis, whose home is in Minnesota; Emmett A., of this review; Mrs. Emma Almira Stanton, a twin sister of Emmett A., who lives in Minnesota; Ellen, residing with her mother in Liberty township; and Mrs. Ada Welch, of Webster City.

The family came to Hamilton county in 1882 and Emmett A. Rothrock has been a resident of this section since that time. His life has been identified with agriculture from an early period. He assisted his father upon the home farm when the family resided in Butler county and during the winter terms he attended school. When his parents moved to Liberty township Mr. Rothrock remained with his father, aiding in all of the farm work and becoming familiar with every detail of agriculture. His efforts in his independent career have been steadily successful and he is now the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of choice land on sections 10 and 11, Liberty township. The farm which he is cultivating is one of the valuable properties in the district and is thoroughly equipped with all that is essential to a successful conduct of a modern agricultural undertaking. Mr. Rothrock has given his time and attention to its details and has won that prosperity which is the natural result of system and progressive methods.

In February, 1897, Mr. Rothrock was united in marriage to Miss Lillie Blackmore, a native of Woodford county, Illinois, where her birth occurred October 28, 1866. Her father, John Blackmore, was a native of England and came to America at an early day. He died in Illinois on June 16, 1884, when he was fifty-seven years of age. Mrs. Rothrock's mother, who was in her maidenhood Miss Elizabeth Runbelow, was also born in Great Britain and died in Illinois on June 28, 1885, when she had reached the age of fifty-three years. She and her husband were the parents of twelve children, nine sons and

three daughters, namely: John, deceased; James, residing at Paxton, Illinois; William, whose home is in Minnesota; Mrs. Sarah Gard, living near El Paso, Illinois; Eli, of Panoli, Illinois; Emma, who died in early life; Albert, residing near Panoli, Illinois; Lincoln, whose home is near El Paso, Illinois; Mrs. Rothrock; Charles, living near Panoli; Mrs. Hattie Agnew, who also makes her home near El Paso; and Grant, who has passed away. All of these children were born in Illinois.

In his political beliefs Mr. Rothrock is consistently republican and while he has never sought public office he performs the duties of his citizenship conscientiously. He has done able and efficient work as township clerk in Liberty for eleven years and has made a good record as public official. He and his family affiliate with the Congregational church at Blairsburg. In his systematic labors, in his straightforward, honorable and reliable business policy and in the high standards of attainment by which he directs his activities, Mr. Rothrock is worthy of the high esteem in which he is held by his fellow citizens and in him modern agriculture finds a worthy and successful representative.

ELBERT LEROY UNDERWOOD.

Well known in the annals of pioneerdom in Hamilton county is the name of Elbert Leroy Underwood, who owns three hundred acres of well improved and highly cultivated land in Cass township, where he has been actively identified with the agricultural development for forty-five years. He is a native of New York, his birth having occurred in Madison county on August 9, 1846, and a son of Marcus L. and Lucretia (Lacy) Underwood, who passed their entire lives in the Empire state. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Underwood, three of whom are now deceased, our subject being the third in order of birth.

Elbert Leroy Underwood was reared at home and educated in the public schools of his native state. At the age of twenty-one years he left the parental roof and came to Hamilton county, Iowa. Upon his arrival here he purchased eighty acres of prairie land on section 22, Cass township, and has ever since made that his home. He was ambitious and energetic, and diligently applied himself to the cultivation of his land and the establishment of a home. The county was but

sparsely settled, money was scarce and pioneer conditions prevailed throughout this section of the state, and all of the hardships and privations incident to life on the frontier devolved upon Mr. Underwood and his young wife. He was not discouraged, however, and persevered in his efforts with the determination of purpose that invariably brings success. As he was able he extended his holdings and later acquired two hundred acres of land on section 24 and twenty acres on section 22, of this township, that is now being cultivated by his son. Mr. Underwood is enterprising and progressive in anything he undertakes, and his homestead is one of the best improved and equipped farms in the community. The barns and outbuildings as well as the residence are substantially constructed and modern in their appointments, while his fields are fenced and partially tiled. Everything about the place from the condition of his stock to the appearance of his fields manifests capable supervision and intelligent and competent direction.

Mr. Underwood has been married twice. His first union was with Miss Marion Earl, and to them were born two children: Lena L., deceased; and Earl, who is residing on his father's farm on section 24. He is married and has one child. In 1878, Mr. Underwood married Miss Mary Johnson, a daughter of William and Julia Johnson of Webster City, and they became the parents of one daughter, Maud, who married John Bosworth, a farmer of this county, by whom she has had three children.

Mr. and Mrs. Underwood are members of the Christian church at Cass Center, and his political allegiance is given to the republican party. He enjoys a wide and favorable acquaintance in the county, where he has achieved success and is numbered among the capable and substantial agriculturists.

WALLACE H. HILL.

Wallace H. Hill is one of the prosperous stockmen and general agriculturists of Cass township, where he owns a valuable farm of two hundred acres located on section 7. He was born in Pike county, Illinois, on the 22d of January, 1862, and is a son of Floyd W. and Elmira (Cohenhour) Hill, the father a native of Pennsylvania, and the mother of Ohio. They were married in Illinois and subsequently settled on a farm in McLean county, that state, where the father

passed away in August, 1894, at the age of fifty-six years. The mother who is now seventy-three, is still living on the old homestead. They were the parents of eight children, of whom our subject is the eldest.

The education of Wallace H. Hill was obtained in the district schools of his native state. In common with the majority of lads reared in the country he early began assisting his father about the farm, thus acquiring a practical knowledge of the duties and responsibilities of the agriculturist. He remained at home until he was married, at the age of twenty-nine, after which he bought a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Illinois, which he cultivated for three years. At the end of that time he disposed of his place and came to Hamilton county, purchasing a hundred and sixty acres of land four miles east of Webster City. Six years later he sold his holdings and invested in a three hundred and ten acre tract near Williams, this county, which he cultivated for a year. Selling this farm he next bought one hundred and eighty-five acres located on sections 18 and 19 of Cass township, where he continued his agricultural pursuits for seven years. He likewise disposed of this property, investing the proceeds in a half section of land in Freedom township, that he cultivated for two years, and then sold it. In the fall of 1910 he bought his present farm, one hundred and seventy acres of which is fenced hog tight, tiled and under high cultivation. He engages in general farming and stock-raising and as he is a diligent and enterprising man, is meeting with fair success in his undertakings.

On the 26th of November, 1891, Mr. Hill was married to Miss Minnie Bige, who was born April 21, 1871. She is the second of the six children born to Alexander and Lurinda (Razor) Bige, the father a native of Italy, and the mother of Kentucky. The parents were married in Illinois and resided there until 1891 when they came to Iowa, settling in Hamilton county. The father formerly owned and operated the farm belonging to Mr. Hill, but he is now living retired in Webster City at the age of seventy-two years. The mother passed away in January, 1905, and was laid to rest in Graceland cemetery, Webster City. Mr. and Mrs. Hill have eight children, as follows: Alvin Glenn, George W., Earl A., Hazel M., Jacob Howard, Allie M., Jessie M. and James Garrett, all of whom are at home.

The family are members of the Methodist church, and fraternally Mr. Hill is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America. He is independent in his political views, giving his support to such candidates as he deems best qualified for the office, irrespective of party.

affiliation. He is a man of enterprising and progressive methods and is meeting with creditable success in the development of his interests, being numbered among the substantial and capable agriculturists of the community.

JAMES J. RAMSAY.

James J. Ramsay is owner of a farm of one hundred and fifty-four acres on section 36, Cass township, which he has been actively cultivating for the past two years. He is a native of Scotland, his birth having occurred on the 29th of September, 1870, and the eldest of three children born to Thomas and Sarah (Jamieson) Ramsay, who passed their entire lives in the old country.

James J. Ramsay, who was only a child of five years when his mother passed away, was reared by his maternal grandparents until he had attained the age of twelve. He then started out to earn his own living and for three years thereafter worked for a farmer in Scotland. It was the dream of his life to come to America, and at the age of fifteen he procured passage for Montreal, and for eighteen months after his arrival worked on a farm forty miles from Toronto. At the expiration of that time he crossed the border into the United States, locating at Joliet, Illinois, where he continued to work as a farm hand for four years. He next removed to Indiana and engaged in tiling for four years. He had been thrifty and diligent and at the end of that period was able to engage in farming for himself, renting land which he cultivated for two years. Disposing of his interests in that state, in February, 1899, he came to Iowa, settling in Webster county, where he continued to farm as a renter for four years. His next removal was to Hamilton county, and during the first seven years of his residence here he cultivated leased land, but in 1909, he purchased his present farm in Cass township, on which he located the following year. His entire holding is fenced with barbed wire, a portion of it hog tight, and his fields are tiled and under high cultivation. Mr. Ramsay makes a specialty of stock-raising and he also feeds stock for the market. He is very enterprising and diligent in his methods and is meeting with success. During the brief period of his ownership he has made many improvements in his place, which is well kept up and evidences systematic supervision and a careful regard for details.

In Indiana, on the 1st of February, 1899, Mr. Ramsay was married to Miss Elizabeth Debo, a daughter of Edward and Margaret Debo, natives of Canada and Ireland, respectively. They were married in Indiana and there the father passed away in March, 1910, but the mother is still living and makes her home in Lafayette, that state. Mrs. Ramsay, who is the third in a family of seven, was born on the 10th of September, 1878, and was reared and educated in Indiana, continuing to reside in that state until after her marriage.

The political views of Mr. Ramsay accord with the principles of the republican party, to whose candidates he gives his support. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and both he and Mrs. Ramsay are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and number many friends among its congregation.

CHARLES A. BRATNOBER.

Charles A. Bratnober, one of the proprietors and manager of the Williams Clothing Company, has been identified with the commercial interests of Williams for five years, and is recognized as one of the town's representative business men. He is a native of Iowa, his birth having occurred in Fort Dodge, this state, on the 14th of June, 1878. His father Ralph H. Bratnober, was born in Brandenburg, Germany, on October 8, 1846. He emigrated to the United States in 1854 and was for some years a resident of Fort Dodge, whence he removed to Prince Albert, Canada, with his family in 1882. Eight years later he returned to Iowa, locating on a farm in the vicinity of Waterloo. From there he came to Williams, where he now makes his home with his son, Charles A. The mother, whose maiden name was Minnie Wagner, was a native of Schwabach, Germany, and passed away in Prince Albert, Canada, February 14, 1883. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Bratnober numbered seven: Louisa, who was born September 2, 1869, the wife of Charles Byrne, of Prince Albert, Canada; August C., who was born November 5, 1871, and was drowned at Gooseberry Falls, Minnesota, on the 7th of August, 1901; while engaged in superintending the floating of a raft over the falls; Molly P., who was born on January 30, 1872, the wife of J. R. Owen, of Dunkerton, Iowa; Henry, who was born in Calhoun county, this state, and died near Manson in 1879; Charles A., of this sketch; Pauline, whose birth occurred December 24, 1880, the wife of T. M.



CHARLES A. BRATNOBER

O'Keefe, of Waterloo, Iowa; and Minnie, now Mrs. Lister, who was born in Prince Albert on the 11th of February, 1883, manager of a department of the Williams Clothing Company.

Charles A. Bratnober was reared at home and obtained his education in the common schools of Iowa and Canada and the Iowa State Teachers' College at Cedar Falls, this state, which he attended in the years 1898 and 1899. The year following was spent in traveling in the north and northwest, where he visited various points of interest. In August, 1907, together with his father he established the Williams Clothing Company, of which he is the manager. They carry a large and well assorted stock of clothing, furnishing goods and shoes, and in the conduct of their enterprise have adopted a policy that commends them to the confidence of all with whom they have dealings. Theirs is generally recognized as one of the best clothing stores in this section and they enjoy a large and constantly increasing patronage.

On the 6th of June, 1907, Mr. Bratnober was married to Miss Ruby A. Lane, who was born at Seward, Illinois, on the 20th of November, 1881. She is a daughter of Fred A. and Martha (Haughton) Lane, the father a native of Winnebago, Illinois, his birth occurring August 8, 1853, while the mother was born in Pecatonica, Illinois, on the 8th of October, 1856. Mr. and Mrs. Lane came to Iowa in 1882, locating at Odebolt, Sac county, where they resided for four years. At the expiration of that period, they settled on a farm near Early, that county, and there the father engaged in agricultural pursuits until March, 1900. The mother is deceased, having passed away at Trenton, Nebraska, on December 10, 1899, but the father is still living and now makes his home at Storm Lake, this state. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Lane: Ellen, whose birth occurred on January 16, 1879, the wife of Walter Meade, of Steele, North Dakota; Mrs. Bratnober; William, whose birth occurred on the 3d of May, 1885, a resident of Marathon, Iowa; Theresa May, who was born on the 26th of March, 1888, now Mrs. Hartman, of Marathon, this state; and Walter, who was born on April 3, 1894, residing with his father at Storm Lake. All are natives of Sac county, this state, with the exception of the two first named. Mrs. Bratnober was only a babe of three months when her parents removed to Iowa, where she was educated and reared to womanhood. After graduating from the high school at Early, she began teaching and for four years thereafter was employed in the district schools of Sac county, at the expiration of which time she ob-

tained a position in the intermediate department of the Williams schools, which she retained for three years. Mr. and Mrs. Bratnober have a daughter, Marian Alberta, who was born in Williams, June 5, 1908.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Bratnober are members of the Presbyterian church. Fraternally he is affiliated with Alamo Lodge, No. 547, A. F. & A. M., in which he has held nearly all of the chairs, his last office being that of secretary. In his political views Mr. Bratnober is a republican. He owns his residence, which is modern and well furnished. He is one of the substantial, as well as enterprising and public-spirited citizens of the community, and wherever known highly esteemed for his many fine qualities of heart and mind.

SIMON SOGARD:

Simon Sogard, one of the well known residents of Ellsworth, was born in Norway on the 24th of August, 1858, and is a son of T. A. and Maren (Hoye) Sogard. The parents passed the early years of their life in the old country, where the father engaged in farming. In 1867 they emigrated to the United States with their family, locating in Racine county, Wisconsin, which was their place of residence for three years thereafter. At the expiration of that time, in 1870, they came to Iowa, settling in Winnebago county. There the father bought eighty acres of land located a mile east of Forest City, where he continued in agricultural pursuits until his death in August, 1882. He was survived by the mother, who is now seventy-nine years of age and makes her home in Ellsworth.

Simon Sogard was a child of nine years when he accompanied his parents to the United States. Two years prior to that he had begun his education in his native land, continuing his studies in the schools of Wisconsin and Winnebago county, Iowa, until he was qualified to engage in teaching. He followed this profession for seven or eight years, withdrawing from it in 1884, in order to assume the duties of clerk of the district court, in which capacity he served for two terms. At the expiration of his period of office he removed to his wife's farm in Lincoln township, this county, and turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. When the State Bank of Ellsworth was organized three years later, he accepted the position of cashier and came to town to live. He remained with the bank for three years, but

owing to the state of his health he deemed it advisable to spend some time in the open air, so he resigned his position and returned to the farm. Having recuperated, he accepted, a few months later, the position of assistant cashier in the First National Bank of Webster City, where he also remained for three years, subsequently returning to Ellsworth, which has ever since been his home.

On the 17th of March, 1887, Mr. Sogard married Miss Annie L. Larson, a daughter of Henry and Susan (Questad) Larson, also natives of Norway, who emigrated to America in early life and located in Lee county, Illinois. They remained there until 1874, and then came to Hamilton county, taking up their residence in Lincoln township, where the father bought one hundred and six acres of land. He subsequently increased his holdings by the purchase of another eighty acres, devoting his energies to the cultivation of his farm until he passed away. The mother is also deceased. Mrs. Sogard was born in Lee county, Illinois, in 1868, and there passed the first six years of her life. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Sogard is as follows: Henry, who died in Webster City in 1899, at the age of eleven years; Mabel A., who is teaching school south of Ellsworth; Silas A.; Selma L.; Clara A.; and Harold T.

The family affiliate with the Lutheran church, in which faith the parents were reared. Mr. Sogard is republican in his political views and was chairman of the county central committee during the McKinley campaign.

GEORGE B. SEGAR.

George B. Segar engages in general farming and stock-raising on section 17, Cass township, where he rents one hundred and sixty-four acres of land. He was born in Hamilton county on the 7th of January, 1856, and is a son of Benjamin B. and Catherine (Bergdorf) Segar, the father a native of Pennsylvania and the mother of the state of New York. They were married in Illinois whence they removed to Iowa in 1854, locating in this county where the father bought government land which he cultivated for many years. Both parents are now deceased, the father having passed away in 1892, and the mother in 1905, and are buried in the cemetery at Cass Center. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Segar numbered seven, our subject being the second in order of birth.

George B. Segar was reared at home and educated in the district schools. At the age of twenty-one he married and began farming for himself as a renter, following this plan for ten years. In 1887 he bought one hundred and sixty acres which he cultivated for four years, but at the expiration of that time he sold his place and has ever since been leasing land.

In 1877, Mr. Segar was married to Miss Olive Nicholson, a daughter of Nelson and Polly Nicholson, who were born, reared and married in Pennsylvania, whence they came to Iowa in 1856. For eleven years thereafter the father farmed in Winneshiek county, but in 1867 he came to Hamilton county, and here he and the mother passed the remainder of their lives. They are buried in Graceland cemetery at Webster City. Mrs. Segar was born on the 18th of January, 1854 and is the third in order of birth in a family of six children. Mr. and Mrs. Segar have three sons and three daughters. In order of birth they are as follows: Helen, the wife of Earl Underwood of this county, by whom she has had two children one of whom is deceased; Emma, who married Wesley Crandall of this county; Ida, who became the wife of Boyd Mellinger, also of this county, by whom she has had one child; Arthur, who is married and living in Wright county; Ralph, a resident of Kamrar, who is married and has one child; and Ray, who is living at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Segar are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and fraternally he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America, while in politics he is a republican. Having passed his entire life in this county, Mr. Segar enjoys a wide and favorable acquaintance among its citizens, where he is known to be a man of sterling worth and integrity.

JOHN S. SLOAN.

There is not a citizen in Williams who has made a more creditable record during the period of his residence in the community than John S. Sloan, who in the space of ten years has acquired a good residence property, farm property amounting to six hundred and forty acres and a comfortable competence, all the result of his own effort. He was born in Bloomington, McLean county, Illinois, on the 26th of December, 1859, and is a son of John and Catharine (Kearney) Sloan, natives of Ireland, the father's birth having occurred in 1822,

and that of the mother in 1834. The father, who was an agriculturist, passed away in Illinois in September, 1909. He had long survived the mother, who died in McLean county in 1869. They were the parents of the following children: John S., our subject; Richard, who was born on the 3d of March, 1861, and died on June 22, 1894; Kate who was born in 1861, and died in December, 1907, formerly the wife of John E. Holland; and Sarah, who died in infancy.

The early advantages of John S. Sloan in acquiring an education were limited, but he was trained in habits of thrift and industry and these home lessons have proven of inestimable value to him and formed the basis of his success. While a small lad he began to assist his father with the work of the farm, his duties being increased as his strength and sense of responsibility developed with the passing years, and thus, long before he had attained his majority, was he thoroughly familiar with the practical methods of agriculture and fully competent to operate a farm. In February, 1902, he removed to Hamilton county, and purchased a farm of three hundred and twenty acres in Rose Grove township. Diligent and enterprising, as well as progressive in his methods he has witnessed every year a marked improvement in his farm, which is now one of the most valuable properties in the community, and to which he has recently added a three hundred and twenty acre purchase, making his holdings six hundred and forty acres. For two years he resided in Blairstown township, where he owned four hundred and fifty-six acres of land, which he sold in 1911 at an appreciable advance over his purchase price. He is now living in Williams, where he owns one of the best residences in the town, which is provided with all modern appointments and handsomely furnished.

On the 21st of January, 1891, Mr. Sloan was united in marriage to Miss Nora C. Lynch, who was born in Bloomington, Illinois, on the 21st of February, 1865 and is a daughter of Michael and Margaret (Gleason) Lynch natives of Ireland. The father passed away in Ottawa, Illinois, at the age of forty years, but the mother is living and now makes her home in Williams with Mrs. Sloan. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Lynch: Michael, who was born on the 16th of March, 1862, and died on January 24, 1889; Mrs. Sloan; James, who was born September 10, 1867 and died at the age of two years, ten months and four days; and Catharine who was born on August 5, 1870, the wife of T. P. Donahue, of Fort Dodge, Iowa.

The two first named were born in Bloomington and the latter two in Ottawa, Illinois.

Mr. and Mrs. Sloan have had six children: Catharine Theresa, who was born on the 11th of November, 1891, and died October 4, 1892; John Joseph, whose natal day was the 13th of December, 1892, residing with his parents in Williams; Richard Francis who was born on the 21st of May, 1895, and died August 14, of the same year; a son, who died in infancy; William Bernard, who is a student in St. Joseph's College at Dubuque, Iowa; and Margaret Cecelia, who was born on the 23d of March, 1900, and is attending the public school of Williams.

The family are communicants of the Roman Catholic church and fraternally Mr. Sloan is identified with the local camp of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a democrat in his political views. He is highly deserving of commendation, as his achievements are the result of unceasing diligence, perseverance and the determination of effort that refuses to recognize defeat. His record should be an inspiration to every ambitious, enterprising young man, as it is substantial proof that success is the result of unremitting effort, persistently and intelligently applied rather than favorable circumstances.

ISAAC DAY.

Isaac Day is among the enterprising and well known agriculturists of Hamilton county, where he is sucessfully engaged in the cultivation of eighty acres of land located in Williams township. He was born in Marion county, Indiana, October 2, 1863, and is a son of John and Mary (Stoner) Day, both of whom were natives of Indiana. They celebrated their marriage in their native state. The father removed with his family in 1870 to Marshall county, Iowa, and established his home in Eden township, where he remained for two years and then purchased a farm located four miles northeast of Collins in Story county, Iowa, where he was engaged in farming for seven years, after which time he moved to Clear Creek township, Jasper county, Iowa. He died in 1906 at the age of seventy years. The mother died many years previously in Indiana. They were the parents of six children, as follows: Mrs. Hadassa Kuhns, deceased; James W., who is a resident of Spokane Falls, Washington; Frank, who has passed away; Mrs. Ollie Thompson who makes her home

near Spokane Falls, Washington; Isaac, of this review; and Mrs. Effie Baker, living at Mingo, Iowa. All the above named were natives of Indiana.

Isaac Day was reared at home and received his early education in the public schools. As a young man he was engaged in work on his father's farm and some time after attaining his majority he purchased eighty acres of land located in Williams township, where he established his home and has since been successfully engaged in general farming and stock-raising, and also makes a specialty of raising full-blooded Plymouth Rock chickens.

Mr. Day was united in marriage, in 1891, to Miss Alice Hale, who was born in Arlington Heights, Illinois, where her birth occurred May 6, 1862. She is a daughter of Anthony and Jane (Crouch) Hale, the former a native of England and the latter of New York. Her father's family now resides in Blairsburg, Iowa. To Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Day six children have been born, namely: Mrs. Vera Seger, who is a native of Collins township, Story county, Iowa, and who is a resident of Blairsburg township; Clarence, who was born in Collins township and resides with his father on the home farm; Elsie, who was born in State Center, Iowa, and is yet under the parental roof; Earl, a native of Williams township, Hamilton county who is also at home; and Irene and Arlyne, likewise natives of Williams township.

Mr. Day is affiliated with the republican party and is a man who by a well directed life has made a most commendable success of his chosen vocation as a farmer. He is well and favorably known throughout his part of the state as a man of unquestioned integrity and is numbered among the esteemed and useful citizens of the community in which he lives.

B. E. SEGAR.

B. E. Segar was born June 10, 1858, in the log house that stood on a farm northeast of Webster City. He passed away February 20, 1912, at his home on the farm on which he located in 1888 and which is one of the finest farm properties of Hamilton county. On the 24th of October, 1880, he was united in marriage by the Rev. Moore to Miss Marion Miller, a daughter of William and Jessie Miller of Web-

ster City, Iowa, and they became the parents of two daughters, Alma and Henrietta.

Mrs. Segar was born in Canada, October 28, 1860, and in her girlhood days was taken by her parents to Porter county, Indiana, while in 1876, at the age of sixteen years, she came to Webster City, Iowa, with her parents. The journey was made with two teams and covered wagons and their first night in the county was spent in Cass township, at the home of A. G. Nail. The same year Marion Miller returned east and remained for two years, after which she again came to Iowa, and has since made her home in this state. Her brothers are Peter and Edward Miller, of Webster City. Her sisters are: Mrs. Cyrus Ashpole, of Thompson, Iowa; Mrs. William Montgomery, of Canada; and Mrs. Henry Sizemore, of Clarion, Iowa.

Alma Segar, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Segar, was born July 24, 1881, near Webster City, and was married November 25, 1903, by the Rev. Prewitt to Wallace W. Clark, who was born in Jackson, Calhoun county, Michigan, October 17, 1878. They made their home in Webster City until March 1, 1910, when they removed to Marshall, Lyon county, Minnesota. They have six children: Zelma Gladys, born November 20, 1904; Bernice Marie, December 21, 1905; George Robert, July 1, 1907; Mabel Frances, October 16, 1908; Hazel Anna, April 25, 1910; and Edmund Wallace, July 11, 1911. The first four were born in Webster City and the other two in Minnesota.

Henrietta Segar was born near Webster City, June 16, 1883, and was married March 1, 1905, by I. W. Hyatt, J. P., to John R. Ziegler, who was born in Freiburg, Auglaize county, Ohio, December 26, 1880. They reside in Webster City and have three daughters: Marion Josephine, born April 15, 1906; Margie Irene, November 21, 1907; and Mildred Adelle, October 23, 1909.

LEVI COTTINGTON.

Levi Cottington resides at No. 719 Bank street, Webster City, Iowa, and is well known in this county as a man who has spent his life in the improvement and cultivation of the soil. He is also a prominent veteran of the Civil war and his loyalty and patriotism are still active forces in his life. He has now retired, having passed the seventy-second milestone on life's journey. He was born in Sussex, England in 1840 and came to the United States in 1841 with his par-



Levi Cottington
Achsa A Cottington

ents, Jesse and Rebecca (Forward) Cottington. They landed in New York and settled immediately in Oneida county, that state, where they remained for ten years. In 1851 they removed to Sauk county, Wisconsin, where the father farmed with much success during the remainder of his life.

Levi Cottington attended the public schools of Wisconsin and pursued the usual course of study until he laid aside his books. In 1864 he enlisted in Company F, Third Wisconsin Volunteer Cavalry, and served with honor until the end of the war. When he was mustered out he returned immediately to Wisconsin, where he farmed for two years. His experience in agriculture at this time gave a definite bent to his ambitions for the future. He determined to make farming his life work and in order to be successful in this branch of activity he gave his entire time and attention to a systematic study of its details. Much of his success he owes to his scientific and efficient knowledge and to the practical nature of his work, which was always productive of good results. Although his farming in Wisconsin was successful and his harvests abundant, he, nevertheless, abandoned that state in 1867 to come to Hamilton county. Here he bought two hundred and ten acres in what is now Webster township. The land was undeveloped and the encroaching prairie was only partially broken. There was a crude log cabin upon his place but this Mr. Cottington destroyed and built a modern dwelling, conveniently furnished. He is responsible for all the improvements which make his farm today one of the model properties of the locality. He built fences in order to divide his fields into convenient portions for the cultivation of grain, tilled the land and was successful in agriculture until 1900, when he removed to Webster City and rented the farm to his son, Levi B. Cottington, who now resides upon the place and is carrying it on along the scientific lines instituted by his father.

In 1867 Mr. Cottington was united in marriage to Miss Achsa A. Brown, a daughter of S. J. and Jennett Brown, of Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Cottington became the parents of six children: Elinor C., who married Leonard Hill, a farmer living near Stanhope, Iowa, by whom she has two sons; Sidney J., a farmer of Webster township, who married Rena Kent, and has five children; J. R., a farmer of Curlew, Iowa, who married Charlotte Ankstrom, and had three sons, one of whom was drowned August 18, 1912; Omro, who married Miss Ethel Neese, by whom he has one son and who is now residing in Curlew, Iowa, where he follows the occupation of farming; Faith, who is the wife of Robert R. Downes, a farmer of Freemont

township, by whom she has one son; and Levi B., now engaged in agricultural pursuits in Webster township, who married Ethel Parry and is the father of four children. Mr. Cottington's descendants, including his children and grandchildren, now number twenty-four.

Mr. Cottington loves to remember the days of the Civil war, and his loyalty and patriotism is as active now as it was in those troublous times. He keeps up his connection with the various organizations of veterans and is well known as an enthusiastic old soldier. He belongs to Winfield Scott Post, No. 66, G. A. R., and has held nearly every office in that organization. Since 1892 he has belonged to the Soldiers' Relief Committee of Hamilton county and has given his time and energies without pay to furthering the comforts and improving the living conditions of the poorer class of veterans. He is justly proud of his work in this connection and his activities connected with the Grand Army of the Republic and other military organizations form a dominating influence in his life.

Mr. Cottington is a man who has made his influence felt in public affairs. For over thirty years he was prominently connected with educational circles of Webster township and held the office of school director during that time. He was supervisor of Hamilton county from 1883 to 1885 and when he became a resident of Webster City served that municipality for one term as a member of the city council. His public life has been distinguished by an intelligent grasp of municipal conditions, a thorough honesty and consistent work toward better and improved standards. He is a genial and kindly man and now in the seventy-third year of his age can look back upon the early events of the pioneer agricultural development with which he was associated. He can remember the gradual evolution of his farm from raw prairie land into a flourishing and productive property. He has now retired from the labor of life with the peaceful consciousness that his share of the duties and activities of the world are well accomplished.

JOHNSON BROTHERS.

F. A. and Sanford Johnson are joint partners in the firm of Johnson Brothers engaged in the drug business, in Stratford, Iowa. They are the sons of Gustav and Anna C. (Larson) Johnson, both of whom were natives of Sweden and emigrated to America in 1859,

settling first in Orion, Illinois, where the family remained for one year. They then removed to Boone county, Iowa, where the father purchased two hundred and forty-seven acres of land, upon which he established his home and continued to live until his death, which occurred in 1895 when he was fifty-nine years of age. The mother later took up her residence in Dayton and there died in 1907 at the age of sixty-two.

They were the parents of seven children, of whom F. A. of this review was second in order of birth. He was born in Orion, Illinois, and received his education in the public schools. He came to Stratford in the fall of 1899 and established the drug business in which he is now engaged. In 1908 he admitted to a partnership, his brother Sanford, since which time the business has been conducted under the name of Johnson Brothers. F. A. Johnson was graduated from the Drake Highland School of Pharmacy, May 1, 1894. Sanford pursued a course in the same school and obtained his license as a registered druggist December 1, 1908. F. A. Johnson owns the building in which Johnson Brothers carry on their drug business, also eighty acres of farm land in Iowa and his residence in Stratford, and is a stockholder in the State Bank of Stratford.

F. A. Johnson was united in marriage in 1898 to Miss Minnie Lush, of Superior, Iowa, and they became the parents of one son, Gerald, who resides with his father. The mother died in April, 1902, and the father was married again in 1894 his second union being with Miss Louisa Erickson, of Hamilton county. They are the parents of two children, Cecil and Beulah.

F. A. Johnson is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and also of the Rebekahs. He is affiliated with the republican party and has been a member of the school board for several years. He and his family hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church.

Sanford Johnson was born February 29, 1876, and was the fifth child in the order of birth in his father's family. He came to Stratford in 1901 and was employed in the drug store of his brother, until 1908, at which time he purchased an interest in the business and has since continued as joint partner in the firm of Johnson Brothers. He is also a stockholder in the State Bank of Stratford and is now building for his own use a suitable residence.

Sanford Johnson was united in marriage in 1899 to Miss Tillie Bloomberg, of Boone county. They are the parents of four children, Irene, Melvin, Mildred and Helen, but the first born passed away at

the age of seven years. Mr. Johnson is affiliated with the republican party and has been a member of the board of councilmen of Stratford for the past six years. He is a member of the Acorn Lodge, M. W. A.; Stratford Lodge, No. 601, A. F. & A. M., of which he has served as junior warden and is at present filling the chair of the senior warden, and also belongs to Hope Chapter, No. 18, R. A. M. of Webster City. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, belonging to Lodge No. 673, of Stratford, and Rebekah lodge, No. 538. He and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

F. A. and Sanford Johnson are numbered among the progressive, substantial business men of Hamilton county and both are always interested in every public enterprise which gives promise of improving the business or educational conditions of the community in which they live.

JOHN H. MURPHY.

John H. Murphy is one of the respected citizens of Williams township, Hamilton county, Iowa, where he is successfully engaged in the cultivation of a farm of three hundred and twenty acres which he owns, located on section 2, Williams township. He was born in Lee county, Illinois, November 17, 1870, and is a son of Dennis Murphy, of whom a sketch appears on another page of this work.

John H. Murphy came with his parents to Hamilton county in 1884 and as a young man spent his early days under the parental roof, where he was engaged in work with his father. He is now the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of highly developed land located on section 2, Williams township, on which he resides with his family. In his farming operations he is making a specialty of stock-raising and enjoys the reputation of having a herd of the very best graded live stock in Hamilton county. His farm is highly improved, with an excellent drainage system and modern, up-to-date, commodious buildings of all kinds, belonging to a perfectly equipped farm.

Mr. Murphy was united in marriage on October 7, 1896, to Miss Annie Chaplinski, a native of Poland, and a daughter of Simon and Paulina (Yonovska) Chaplinski, both of whom were natives of Poland, the father's birth having occurred in 1837 and that of the

mother in 1844. The father emigrated to America in 1873 and his family followed him to the new world one year later. They settled first in Pennsylvania, and later moved to Blackhawk county, Iowa, where the father was for some time employed on the railroad. In 1880 the family moved to Wright county, Iowa, and for a number of years were numbered among the most prosperous farmers of the community in which they lived. The father died in Williams, Iowa, in March, 1911, and the mother still maintains her residence at their old home in Williams. They were the parents of seven children, as follows: Gust, who is a resident of Chicago, Illinois; Mrs. Emma Schroeder, living in Dows, Iowa; Mrs. Annie Murphy; Fred, who was born on the 15th of December, 1870, and who is the owner of a dray line in Williams; Mary, who resides in Williams; Mrs. Susie Murphy, who makes her home in Williams township; and John V., of Chicago. All the above named are natives of Poland.

To Mr. and Mrs. John H. Murphy three children have been born, namely: Lawrence Matthew, whose birth occurred on the 3d of August, 1897, and who assists his father in the operation of the home farm; Edward Henry, who was born on the 8th of December, 1900, and is attending school; and Philip Francis, whose natal day was September 4, 1908. All three sons were born in Williams township. Mr. Murphy is affiliated with the democratic party. He and his family are members of the Catholic church of Williams. Mr. Murphy, by a life of well directed industry and frugality, has succeeded in his chosen vocation as an agriculturist and is numbered among the very influential and most useful citizens of the community in which he lives.

P. A. SWANSON.

P. A. Swanson is the pioneer merchant of Stratford, being the first man to open a general mercantile house in that place. He has been identified with nearly all of the leading business enterprises of the city since its organization and is at present the president of the State Bank of Stratford. He was born October 28, 1839, in Sweden, and is a son of S. P. and Anna Maria (Clementson) Swanson, who emigrated to America in 1849, and settled in Jefferson county, near Fairfield, Iowa, where the father engaged in farming for seventeen years. He then removed with his family to Hamilton county, and

here maintained his residence until his death, which occurred in 1869. The mother died in 1892.

P. A. Swanson was reared at home and received his early education in his native country. He emigrated with his parents to America in 1849 and in early manhood he went to Ridgeport, Boone county, Iowa, where he clerked in a store for seven years. He then, in partnership with his brother, bought the store in which he had been employed and successfully conducted it until 1881, at which time he sold out. Previously to this, however, in 1880, he had come to Stratford and opened a store, leaving the one at Ridgeport in charge of his brother. Here he built the first store building in that city and engaged in general merchandising for two years and then sold out. He has since been engaged in various business enterprises and is at present the president of the State Bank of Stratford, of which he is one of the principal stockholders. He has also been a heavy dealer in real estate but has sold most of his land in recent years, being still the owner, however, of forty acres of farm land in Hamilton county. He is also a stockholder in the creamery at Stratford.

Mr. Swanson has been a lifelong republican. He was employed in the provost marshal's office of Burlington, Iowa, for two years during the war. He was treasurer of Dodge township, Boone county, for several years and for ten years was postmaster at Mineral Ridge, Boone county. He is at present treasurer of the town of Stratford. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and is one of its board of trustees. Mr. Swanson is one of the widely known men of Hamilton county and one who has been intimately connected with the business, political and religious development of his part of the state. His well known reputation for integrity in all business matters and his high ideals of life have placed him among the very desirable and useful citizens of the community.

ELMER J. HARMON.

Elmer J. Harmon is a prosperous farmer located on section 31, Lincoln township, Hamilton county. He was born February 10, 1888, on the place where he now lives and is a son of Mons and Martha (Nelson) Harmon. The father was born on the water a day's journey from New York, while his parents were on their way from their native country—Norway—to America. The mother of

our subject was born in Norway and in early life emigrated to this country. The parents were married in La Salle county, Illinois, but shortly afterward settled on a farm in Iowa, which place is now the home of the subject of this review. They improved the property and there continued to live during their remaining years. In addition to the original home farm the father also owned eighty acres on section 32, Lincoln township. He died February 17, 1891, and the mother passed away February 19, 1893, both being buried in a cemetery located three miles east and one mile south of Ellsworth. They were the parents of two children: Elmer J., of this review; and Monsie May. After their parents' death the children were brought up in the family of their uncle, Isaac Harmon.

Elmer J. Harmon was educated in the public schools of Leland, Illinois, and after completing his elementary education he pursued a two years' course in the university at Urbana, Illinois. He was then appointed a clerk of committees in the general assembly at Springfield, Illinois, where he served until the close of the session. He then obtained work with the Buckbee Seed Company at Rockford, Illinois, and continued in the employ of that house for six months, after which he went to Minneapolis, Minnesota, with his sister, who wished to finish her education there. In that city he remained for one year, during which time he was city collector for the hardware house of Hamilton Fosseen Company. He then went to Leland, Illinois, but in the spring of 1911 returned to Hamilton county and settled on his father's old homestead, which he inherited. After the death of his parents and during the period of guardianship the administrator of his father's estate purchased eighty acres of land adjoining the eighty acres on section 32, which belonged to the estate, and that one hundred and sixty acres was inherited by Monsie, the sister of Mr. Harmon. He is engaged in general farming and stock-raising and also buys and feeds cattle, which he sells in the open market. His land is all under the plow and the entire farm is tiled and ten acres of the property is surrounded by a hog-tight fence. The water for all purposes is secured from a drilled well and is abundant for all domestic and stock uses. In 1911 Mr. Harmon built a modern seven-room residence, finished in hardwood throughout; is supplied with bath, electric light and running water, and is heated with a modern hot water system.

On August 9, 1911, Mr. Harmon was united in marriage to Miss Bessie L. Miller, a daughter of Fred J. and Ella (Jacobs) Miller, the former a native of Illinois and the latter of Norway. The parents

were married in Nebraska and later removed to Aurora, Illinois, where they now reside. In their family were three children, of whom the eldest, Bessie L., was born April 26, 1893.

Mr. Harmon is a member of the Masonic blue lodge of Leland, Illinois, and is affiliated with the democratic party. He is one of the enterprising, up-to-date farmers of Hamilton county, and a man whose habits of industry and consistent living place him among the influential and useful people of the community in which he lives.

WILLIAM A. JOHNSON.

Among the residents of Hamilton county who were at one time actively associated with agricultural interests but are now living retired is William A. Johnson, who maintains his residence at No. 1627 Wilson avenue, Webster City. He is still in the prime of life, having reached the age of fifty-seven years and has given up his farming in order to devote his attention to the general supervision of his extensive real-estate interests and to the many details incident to his connection with various phases of municipal activity.

He is a native of Massachusetts, born in Northampton, in 1855. His parents were William S. and Julia (Leonard) Johnson, who resided in Massachusetts for a number of years. His father was a carpenter by trade and with his family came to Webster City in 1858. His death occurred in 1902 when he was eighty-four years of age and his wife died in 1892 when she was sixty-two years old.

William A. Johnson pursued the usual course of study in the public schools of Webster City, at the same time working on a farm during his leisure hours. He early became acquainted with the best methods of agriculture and his boyish activities gave a definite bent to his more mature ambitions. In 1871, when he was sixteen years of age, his natural energy and resourcefulness had enabled him to acquire enough money to rent a farm in Hamilton county. He later bought one hundred and sixty acres but lived on rented land until he was able to pay for his farm, which he continued to improve and operate until his retirement from agricultural life in 1905. For many years Mr. Johnson was successful and prominent as a farmer and brought his land to a high state of cultivation by his practical efforts along scientific lines. He made his place productive and lucrative and was recognized among his fellow agriculturists as a worthy



MR. AND MRS. W. A. JOHNSON



representative of this line of activity. In 1905 he abandoned farming altogether and removed to Webster City. He has since devoted his time and attention to the management of his extensive real-estate interests and to his public duties. He is a director in the Hamilton County State Bank and is well known as a careful and conservative financier. His fellow citizens regard him as a man whose life and energies are a valuable addition to the civic welfare and whose co-operation in the promotion of municipal advancement is always ready and eager.

In 1880 Mr. Johnson was united in marriage to Miss Elmira T. Entriken, a daughter of William and Margaret (Funk) Entriken, who came from Pennsylvania to Hamilton county in 1872. The father was a representative and substantial farmer in this section where he cultivated the soil until his death in 1887. His wife survived him until 1891 and died when she was seventy-three years of age. To Mr. and Mrs. Johnson were born two children: Leah, who became the wife of T. H. Russell and who now resides in Canada; and Maris, who was born on the 11th of December, 1897, and is now a resident of Webster City.

Fraternally Mr. Johnson is prominent in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, holding membership in Elmo Lodge, No. 62, and Ridgeley Encampment, No. 9, of that organization. His position among his fellow citizens is prominent and assured. He is recognized as a man shrewd, competent and strictly honest in business transactions and is highly esteemed wherever known.

F. R. MASON & SONS.

The hardware firm of F. R. Mason & Sons is one of the oldest concerns in this line in Webster City and stands for conservative ideas of honor and integrity, combined with a progressive policy of business expansion. The firm was founded by Franklin R. Mason in 1896 in conjunction with his nephew, B. C. Mason, whose interests were subsequently purchased by Franklin Mason and his son Harold, and the business reorganized under the firm name of F. R. Mason & Son. The founder of the concern is deceased, but his energetic business spirit lives in his sons, who have added to it the progressive and strenuous principles of a later generation and are carrying on a representatively modern enterprise.

Franklin R. Mason was born near Cummington, Massachusetts, March 27, 1836, and was a son of Jesse and Sally (Thompson) Mason. The son received a limited education by attending the country schools of his native district during the winter sessions. At the age of nineteen he laid aside his books and journeyed westward to Webster City, Iowa, where he arrived on the 29th of November, 1855. His history is prominently identified with the pioneer settlement and upbuilding of the state of Iowa. In 1857 he was appointed second lieutenant of a state regiment and participated with distinction in the campaign against the Indians, following the Spirit Lake massacre. Returning to Webster City he left Iowa in 1860, for Pike's Peak, Colorado, with his brother, B. S. Mason. The party searched there for gold but returned after an unsuccessful prospecting tour which lasted only a few months. In the following year, 1861, Franklin Mason went to Canada, where he had received the offer of a responsible position in the tannery of F. Shaw & Brother, located at Roxton Fall, Quebec. At that time this enterprise was the largest tannery in the world and Mr. Mason gained a practical knowledge of the management of a prosperous and flourishing factory. He remained there as foreman until June, 1869, in which year he returned to Webster City and engaged in different enterprises until 1879, and then selling implements for the firm of James Clagg, a connection which lasted eighteen years. His connection with the hardware and implement line dates back, therefore, to his early active career. Before he became connected with the house of James Clagg he was also in the employ of Cox & Worthington, implement dealers, in Webster City. In 1896 in company with his nephew, B. C. Mason, he began a commercial career for himself, establishing the Mason Hardware Company. He founded his business upon the principles of high commercial integrity and honorable methods which dominate the policy of his sons at the present time. The original partnership continued until 1899, when Harold P. Mason bought out the interest of B. C. Mason and the enterprise became known as F. R. Mason & Son, under which title it is today operating. Franklin Mason retained his connection with the enterprise which he had founded until 1905, when his interests were purchased by his son, Jesse W. Mason. The business since that time has been conducted by Harold and Jesse Mason under its old title of F. R. Mason & Son. In 1905 Franklin Mason definitely retired from active life and lived in Webster City until his death, on July 31, 1909, in the seventy-fourth year of his age. He was a fine example of the business man of a former generation, con-

servative but liberal in his policy and never influenced by the questionable commercial methods of our modern age. His death was a distinct loss to the commercial development of Webster City, in which his life had been an influencing and dominating factor. The policy of strict integrity and conscientious business morality which he inaugurated and which he followed during his active career is now being carried on by his two sons, who are carrying on the hardware business of which he was the founder in a capable and systematically efficient manner.

In 1858 Mr. Mason wedded Miss Lucy A. Howes, a native of Cummington, Massachusetts, and a daughter of Henry Howes. Mrs. Mason passed away on August 11, 1873, leaving five children. Allison E., the eldest, was for many years a teacher in the Webster City schools and is now engaged in teaching in Des Moines, Iowa. Rosamond M. is the wife of D. G. Ross and they reside at Summerland, British Columbia. They have two sons: George M., who is married to Helen Bartholomew and also resides in Summerland; and Donald G. Ross. Lovina B. is the wife of Henry Bailey, of Colchester, Connecticut, and they have four children, Charles M., Harold, Jessie and Allison R. Abbott L. and Jennie L., both deceased, complete the family. On July 11, 1876, Mr. Mason was united in marriage to Miss Belle R. Wilson, a daughter of Stephen Wilson, of Clay county, Iowa. The father came to Iowa in 1854, taking up his residence in Hardin county, but in 1871 moved to Clay county, this state, where his death occurred in 1871, at the age of fifty-eight, his wife passing away when in her eighty-sixth year. By his second marriage Mr. Mason became the father of two children, Harold P. and Jesse W.

Harold P. Mason was the first of the present members of the firm to become connected with his father's enterprise. He was born on December 31, 1879, and is a native son of Webster City. He was reared at home and received his education in the public schools. His active career began in 1895, when he was employed as a clerk in the First National Bank of Webster City, in which connection he remained for seven years. In the meantime, in 1899, he had purchased the interests of B. C. Mason in his father's enterprise, then known as the Mason Hardware Company. He did not take an active part in the management of the concern until 1902, when he resigned his position in the First National Bank in order to devote his entire energy and attention to the duties connected with his new line of business. His energy and shrewd business insight were from the very beginning a valuable addition to the assets of the F. R. Mason & Sons Hard-

ware Company. He has always been an upright and honorable man, well versed in the details of the enterprise with which he is connected and thoroughly systematic and efficient.

Mr. Mason was united in marriage to Miss Harriet H. Fenton, a daughter of Charles T. Fenton, of Webster City, who at one time was a well known stock buyer in that place and who in his later years was connected with the lumber business. He was a representative and able citizen and served his community for four years as its mayor. His death occurred in 1891. Mr. and Mrs. Mason have two children: Franklin, who was born March 17, 1900; and Charles, born August 10, 1904. The family reside at No. 544 First street and have many friends in Webster City. Harold P. Mason is a public-spirited and liberal-minded man. He takes an active part in progressive politics and served from 1905 to 1911 as councilman of Webster City. Fraternally he belongs to Acacia Lodge, No. 176, A. F. & A. M., and is prominent in the local lodge, No. 302, B. P. O. E. His business hours are all devoted to expanding and developing the enterprise with which he is identified along scientific and progressive lines. In this he is aided by his brother, Jesse W. Mason, with whom he works in harmonious relations to promote the prosperity and success of the concern, which their father founded and which they are today representing.

Jesse W. Mason was born April 10, 1884, and he also is a native son of Webster City. He was educated in the public schools and all during his life has been connected with the hardware business. He worked for his father on a salary for some years and did not enter into his present partnership until 1905, when he purchased his father's interest and became associated with his brother, Harold P. Mason. Under their united management and direction the firm is still operating and each year sees a constantly increasing degree of prosperity.

Mr. Mason has been married twice. On June 14, 1905, he wedded Miss Beryl Bawden, a daughter of N. H. Bawden, of Webster City, who is at present serving as supervisor of Hamilton county. The first Mrs. Mason died on April 25, 1909, and on January 31, 1911, Mr. Mason was united in marriage to Miss Grace Bueghley, a daughter of D. D. Bueghley, who is a prominent farmer of Liscomb, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Mason reside at No. 848 Second street, Webster City.

The prosperity and success of the enterprise which Jesse W. and Harold P. Mason are now operating is due in a large measure to their harmonious relations and to their agreement upon vital matters of business morality. It is one of the prosperous and substantial com-

mercial enterprises in Webster City today. Its founder was a gentleman of the old school, a believer in conservatism in business and in courtesy and consideration in every-day affairs. The sons have built up on their father's dignified foundation a modernly progressive institution which in its essential business policy holds firmly to the honest and upright standards inaugurated in an earlier and more simple generation.

L. M. CROSLEY.

Probably no one citizen of Randall has contributed more largely toward the commercial development of the town than L. M. Crosley, who is here engaged in the drug business and is also a member of the firm of Crosley & Nelson, real-estate dealers. He is a native of Iowa, his birth having occurred at Liscomb, Marshall county, on the 29th of September, 1875, and a son of Edgar and Cora E. (Best) Crosley. The father's natal day was the 16th of February, 1855, while that of the mother, whose birth occurred in the vicinity of Canton, Ohio, was October 21, of the same year. He is descended from one of Iowa's very early settlers, his paternal grandfather, John Crosley, who was born about 1816, having been one of the pioneers of Dubuque county. He subsequently removed to Nebraska, passing away at Rushville, that state, in 1892, at the age of seventy-six years. The grandmother, whose maiden name was Catharine Myers, died in Grundy county, this state, when she was fifty-six years of age. The Bests were among the pioneers of Ohio and are connected with the Moore family, which figured prominently in the early history of central Ohio. Edgar Crosley is still actively identified with the commercial interests of Jewell, where he is engaged in the poultry, egg and produce business. The mother, however, is deceased, having passed away in Jewell, on the 12th of July, 1903. To them were born six children, of whom our subject is the eldest. In order of birth the others are as follows: Mrs. Blanche Smith, deceased; Birdie, who is cashier for the Credential Life Insurance Company of Des Moines; Sadie, the wife of Walter De Armand, a workman in the Des Moines Saddlery Company of Des Moines, Iowa, whom she met while attending the deaf and dumb institute at Council Bluffs, of which he was also a student; Leonard, who is a printer by trade and a resident of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and Bessie, a milliner of Randall.

The three eldest members of the family were born in Marshall county and the last named in Hardin county.

The boyhood and early youth of L. M. Crosley were passed on a farm in the vicinity of Radcliffe, where the family located in 1878. This period of his life was passed in very much the same manner as that of other lads who are reared in the rural sections. His education was completed in the high schools of Radcliffe and Hubbard, and at the age of seventeen he began his business career as a clerk in a drug store. Two years later he successfully passed the state examination and was granted his license as a registered pharmacist. On January 1, 1898, he came to Randall and established the drug store he is now conducting. Being a young man of more than average foresight and sagacity, he readily recognized the opportunities the town afforded in a business way and began to avail himself of its advantages. He established the first restaurant and ice cream parlor in the town and also installed the first soda fountain. To him also belongs the honor of having opened the first jewelry store in Randall, and he has been prominently identified with various other local enterprises. Later he engaged in the real-estate business with Mr. Nelson, under the firm name of Crosley & Nelson, and as they are both men of marked enterprise they have met with a gratifying degree of success in the development of this undertaking. In addition to local town and country properties they engage in the buying and selling of Minnesota farms and are general agents for the Rio Grande Valley lands. Mr. Crosley takes an active and helpful interest in forwarding the development of the town and was one of the promoters of the Farmers Telephone system in Ellsworth township. Despite the exactions made on his time by his varied interests they are all given due attention. His store is unusually well equipped, up-to-date and presents an inviting appearance, and his lines of drugs are always fresh, up-to-standard and of the very highest grade. In addition to drugs and patent medicines he carries toilet articles and sundries such as are found in establishments of this kind, while he has become widely known through the surrounding country by reason of his large and carefully selected stock of holiday goods, which draw customers from a radius of miles. Mr. Crosley's business career has not been free from adversities, but he has self-reliance, energy and confidence in himself and others, and he finds his greatest incentive to further effort in setbacks, utilizing these as lessons and stepping-stones to a larger and more secure success.

On the 5th of May, 1898, Mr. Crosley was united in marriage to Miss Edith May Beecher, who was born in the vicinity of New Providence, Hardin county, on May 30, 1878. She is the only child of G. W. and Amanda (Hall) Beecher, who are residing on a farm near Lawn Hill, Hardin county. She was educated in the academy at New Providence and was subsequently postmaster at Lawn Hill. To Mr. and Mrs. Crosley has been born one daughter, Bessie, whose natal day was the 2d of January, 1911. Mr. Crosley recently disposed of his residence to good advantage. He holds title to some business lots in town, however, which are becoming more and more valuable. He has made creditable progress in the development of his career, which must be attributed entirely to his enterprising spirit,—his determination of purpose which refuses to recognize failure.

Mr. and Mrs. Crosley attend the Methodist Episcopal church, and fraternally he belongs to the Knights of Pythias at Story City, having been initiated in this organization at Hubbard, and of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of Webster City. Politically he is a republican and has served for two terms as township trustee, while on several occasions he has been sent as a delegate to county conventions.

EDWARD PETERSON.

Edward Peterson is one of the well known and respected citizens of Stratford and is engaged as cashier of the State Bank of Stratford. He was born July 20, 1869, in Webster county, Iowa, and is a son of Daniel A. and Hattie S. (Hanson) Peterson, both of whom were natives of Sweden and emigrated with their parents to America in early childhood. They were married in Webster county, where they have since continued to reside. The father has been engaged in agricultural pursuits during his entire residence in this country. In the family were five children, of whom the subject of this review is the eldest.

Edward Peterson was reared at home and received his elementary education in the public schools. He remained under the parental roof until he was twenty years of age and at that time started out in life for himself as a telegraph operator in the employ of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company at Dayton. At the end of two years he accepted the position of deputy county recorder of Webster

county, and in that office he served for two years. In 1894 he came to Stratford, becoming cashier of the State Bank of Stratford, and to the interests of that institution he has since given his attention. He is one of the stockholders in the bank and is the owner of ninety-five acres of farm land in Hamilton county, owning also three hundred and twenty acres of land in Webster county. He is also a stockholder in the Security Title & Loan Company of Webster City. The State Bank of Stratford was established in 1891 with a capital stock of twenty-five thousand dollars, which was owned by local investors and by citizens of Fort Dodge. The first officers of the bank were Augustus Anderson, president; Jonas Fallin, vice president; and J. T. Drug, cashier. In 1909 the bank was reorganized and the capital stock increased to thirty-five thousand dollars. It now has a surplus and undivided dividends, in addition to its capital stock, of fifteen thousand dollars. At the time of the reorganization the stock held by non-residents of Stratford was purchased by the present officers, who are now the exclusive owners of the entire issue. The officers are P. A. Swanson, president; F. E. Lundell, vice president; and Edward Peterson, cashier. The State Bank of Stratford is one of the solid financial institutions of Hamilton county and its officers and board of directors are among the most enterprising and trusted citizens of this part of the state.

Mr. Peterson was united in marriage in 1903 to Miss Hilma Peterson, of Dayton, Iowa. She is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nels Peterson, in whose family were five children, of whom Mrs. Peterson is the fourth in order of birth, born October 11, 1878. Edward Peterson is well and favorably known throughout business circles of Hamilton county and is a man who by virtue of his well known integrity and constant attention to business is placed among the reliable and trustworthy members of the community in which he resides.

GEORGE STEWART BARNER, LL. B.

George Stewart Barner, a prominent and leading resident of Webster City, has served in the capacity of city solicitor since January, 1908. He was born at Shippensburg, Pennsylvania, on the 26th of October, 1878, being the only child of John L. and Ella M. (Long) Barner, who still reside at Shippensburg. John L. Barner acted as agent of the Cumberland Valley Railroad for twelve years and sub-



GEORGE S. BARNER AND FAMILY

sequently assisted his father-in-law in the various undertakings with which he was connected, involving real estate and other interests.

George Stewart Barner acquired his education in the public schools of Shippensburg, the Chambersburg Academy and the Washington and Jefferson College of Washington, Pennsylvania. Having determined upon the legal profession as a life work, he entered the Dickinson School of Law at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, which institution conferred upon him the degree of LL. B. in 1906. Coming at once to Webster City, Iowa, he began the practice of law here in partnership with M. J. Mattice under the firm style of Barner & Mattice. This association was maintained with mutual pleasure and profit until January, 1908, when it was dissolved, Mr. Barner being at that time appointed city solicitor to fill out an unexpired term. His services in that connection proved so satisfactory that he was elected to the office in 1909 and reelected in 1911, making him the present incumbent.

On the 30th of October, 1906, Mr. Barner was united in marriage to Miss Romayne H. Brenneman, her parents being Lemuel Todd and Florence (Hertzler) Brenneman, the former a farmer of Carlisle, Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Barner have three sons: John Lemuel, George Brenneman and Richard Long, who were born in the years 1907, 1908 and 1911 respectively. The family reside in a beautiful home at No. 407 Des Moines street, Webster City.

Mr. Barner is a prominent and active worker in the local ranks of the republican party and since June, 1910, has served as secretary of the republican county central committee. In Masonry he has attained high rank, belonging to the following organizations: Cumberland Valley Lodge, No. 315, F. & A. M., of Shippensburg, Pennsylvania; St. John's Chapter, R. A. M., of Carlisle, Pennsylvania; Tri-une Commandery, No. 41, K. T., of Webster City; Za-Ga-Zig Temple, N. M. S., of Des Moines; and Des Moines Consistory, No. 3, S. P. R. S. He is also identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, belonging to Elmo Lodge, No. 62, of which he is past grand, Ridgley Encampment, No. 9, and Eureka Canton. He is likewise connected with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and is past exalted ruler of Lodge No. 302. His religious faith is that of the Presbyterian church and he is a valued member of the Country Club of Webster City, the Commercial League of Webster City and the Grant Club of Des Moines. Mr. Barner is very popular both in professional and social circles and is a young man who has the respect and confidence of all with whom he is brought in contact. He

has made advancement through the wise utilization of the opportunities that have come to him and the simple weight of his character and ability has carried him into important professional and political relations.

WILLIAM HENRY WILLSON, M. D.

Nine years of conscientious devotion to the demands of his profession has not only enabled Dr. William Henry Willson to build up a lucrative practice in Randall but has placed him in the front rank of the medical circles of Hamilton county. By birth he was a British subject having been born in the province of Ontario, Canada, on the 28th of November, 1873. He is a son of Isaac and Elizabeth (Morgan) Willson, also natives of Ontario, where for many years the father was actively engaged in agricultural pursuits. They are now residing in Wardsville, one of the oldest towns in Ontario, having been founded before London, of that province. Their family of whom our subject is the eldest, was as follows: Walter, deceased; Mrs. Jennie Durden, a resident of London, Ontario; Rilla, the wife of John Atcheson, of the Cobalt district, Canada; Bertha, who is living at home; Ernest, deceased; Morgan James and Mordecai Judson, twins, who are cultivating the old family homestead in Ontario; Arthur, who is a resident of Wardsville; and E. G., a telegrapher in the employ of the Wabash Railroad Company, who passed away in 1911.

Being the eldest child in a large family of moderate circumstance, the early advantages of Dr. Willson were somewhat limited. He was reared at home and educated in the public schools of his native province, terminating his student days a year before completing his high-school course. His father was a farmer and when not in school his time was largely spent in the fields, in the tilling of which he began to assist when little more than a child. Ambition to enter professional ranks early took hold of William Willson and he decided upon the medical profession, knowing full well that the achievement of his desire entailed much work and self denial, as it would be necessary for him to earn the money to complete his education. Various occupations claimed his attention during the ensuing years but ultimately his circumstances permitted him to begin his professional course and he matriculated in the Medical College at Keokuk, this

state. He was awarded his degree with the class of 1903 and subsequently went to Pioneer, this state, and established an office. Conditions there, however, came not up to his expectations and he later removed to Randall, locating here on the 14th of May, 1903. During the first few years of his residence he met with the usual difficulties experienced by the majority of young men who are striving to gain a foothold in the professional world, but the memory of those early struggles has been cast into shadow by the light of his more recent successes. His rise has not been at all phenomenal, but is in every way consistent with the determination of purpose and unceasing effort of this man, whose sympathetic nature and conscientious devotion to his patients have been important factors in winning him recognition. He has always been a zealous student and keeps in close touch with the progress of science and his profession through the medium of the various medical journals. Feeling the need of a more practical knowledge of modern surgical methods, he has twice pursued post-graduate courses in Chicago, once at the Poly-clinic and on another occasion at the Post Graduate Hospital. His keen powers of discernment and excellent mental qualities seldom lead him astray in a diagnosis, which has served to strengthen his faith in himself and enabled him to inspire confidence in all who seek his services. The hardships and struggles Dr. Willson has experienced in his own life, have not, as is so often the case, hardened him, but given him a sympathetic understanding and appreciation of human nature, which compels him to recognize the bond of fellowship and brotherhood, and extend to the less fortunate a helping hand.

On the 5th of August, 1905, Dr. Willson was married to Miss Elizabeth Grace Heywood, who was born in Ontario, Canada, on the 15th of July, 1877, and there she was reared to womanhood, completing her education in the Wardsville high school and the Ridge Town Academy, which she attended for two years. She is a daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Stephens) Heywood, to whom were born eight children: Mrs. Cora York, a professional nurse, residing in Chicago, Illinois; Alice, deceased, who also was a trained nurse; Mrs. Jennie Harper and Edith, milliners, of Chicago; Mrs. Willson; William Thomas, who is a resident of Montana; Mrs. George Adenam, whose home is in the Canadian northwest; and Bert, who lives in Cleveland, Ohio. The father still resides in Wardsville, but the mother, who was a native of Cleveland, Ohio, passed away in 1892. Dr. and Mrs. Willson have two children: Florence Sarah, who

was born on the 18th of May, 1906; and William Henry, Jr., whose birth occurred October 28, 1907.

In matters of religious faith the parents are both Methodists, Dr. Willson holding membership in Chatham Square church of Keokuk. Fraternally he is affiliated with Hammond Lodge, No. 327, A. F. & A. M., of the Erie district, Ontario; and with Briar Lodge, No. 679, I. O. O. F., of Story City. He maintains relations with his fellow practitioners through the medium of his connection with the county and state Medical Societies and the American Medical Association. He owns one of the attractive residences of the town and a well equipped office and a good medical library. He is one of the highly esteemed citizens of Randall, where he has many stanch friends, who accord him the respect he merits by reason of his many fine qualities, no less than because of his professional skill.

HOWARD CLARENCE SMITH.

Howard Clarence Smith, president and one of the organizers of the First National Bank of Jewell, has for twenty-eight years been a resident of Hamilton county, and is numbered among its most enterprising and progressive citizens. He was born in Kenton, Hardin county, Ohio, on the 28th of December, 1858, and is the youngest member in a family of six. His parents, Nathan and Mary (McLain) Smith, were born in Zanesville, Ohio, but were married in Hardin county, that state, where the mother, who is now ninety years of age, still resides. The father, however, is deceased, having passed away in October, 1911, in his ninety-fourth year. His energies were always devoted to agricultural pursuits.

The boyhood and youth of Howard Clarence Smith were passed on the old homestead in Ohio, and were very similar to those of other lads who are reared in the country. At the usual age he began his education in the common schools of his native county, and completed it in the Ohio Wesleyan University, located at Delaware, that state, being graduated from this institution with the class of 1884. The same year he came to Hamilton county and purchased three hundred and twenty acres of unimproved land in Lyon township, and engaged in farming. A man of practical and intelligent ideas and earnest purpose, he applied himself diligently to the development of his farm, converting it into one of the most attractive and valuable properties

in the community. In the spring of 1901 he became associated with others in the organization of the First National Bank of Jewell, of which he was made president, and the year following he rented his farm and removed to town, where he purchased a very pleasant and comfortable residence. Mr. Smith has proven as efficient and capable in the discharge of his present duties as in the development of his agricultural interests, and without doubt it is largely due to his efforts that the bank has progressed so successfully. It is now numbered among the well established and stable financial institutions of the county and is doing an excellent business. Mr. Smith is also a stockholder in the Farmers' State Bank of Kamrar, and together with Alpheus Alexander owns the building in which the First National Bank is located in Jewell.

On the 8th of September, 1909, Mr. Smith was married to Miss Ida Watsabaugh, a daughter of Peter Watsabaugh, of Leon, Decatur county, Iowa, and the third in order of birth in a family of nine.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith affiliate with the Congregational church, and fraternally he is identified with Republic Lodge, No. 468, A. F. & A. M. His political allegiance he gives to the republican party. He has served as mayor of the town of Jewell, and takes an active and helpful interest in the development of the town and the advancement of its various public utilities.

BERENT M. BRANFORD.

While Berent M. Branford is now a resident of Spokane, Washington, where he is engaged in the practice of law, he has a wide acquaintance in Hamilton county, where the earlier years of his life were passed and where his people still reside. He was born near Randall, this county, August 27, 1869, a son of Ole O. and Helene Christina Branjord. The father was born in Gudbrandsdalen, Norway, and for convenience sake the spelling of the family name was changed to its present form in 1901. His wife was born near Tornæa, Finland, and they were married in Hammerfest, Norway, in 1861. Coming to the United States they settled in Hardin county, Iowa, in 1864 and in 1867 removed to the vicinity of Story City, Iowa. In the spring of 1869 they took up their abode on a prairie farm near Randall, Hamilton county, and there through industry, economy and careful management they have succeeded in acquiring a comfortable

competence, enabling them at length to leave the farm and live retired in Ellsworth, Iowa, where they now make their home.

The son, Berent M. Branford, spent his youth largely upon the old homestead and supplemented his early education, acquired in the district schools, by study in St. Olaf's school (now a college) at Northfield, Minnesota, during the winter of 1885-86, while in 1892-3 he attended the Drake University at Des Moines and from January, 1899, until June, 1900, was a student in the State University of Iowa. While there he gave his attention to preparation for the legal profession and was graduated from the law department with the degree of LL. B. In the same month he was admitted to practice at the Iowa bar and has since followed his profession. Attracted by the rapidly growing west, he went to Spokane in May, 1901, and has since been a representative of the bar in that city. His progress has been continuous and in a profession where advancement depends entirely upon individual merit, effort and ability, he has steadily worked his way upward.

In Spokane, on the 28th of June, 1905, Mr. Branford was married to Miss Ellen Johanna Ove, a daughter of T. T. Ove, now residing in Spokane, and a twin sister of the Rev. T. T. Ove, now of Los Angeles, California. Mr. and Mrs. Branford have two children: Bernice Eleanor, who is six years of age; and Margaret Christine, two years old. The parents hold membership in the Lutheran church. Mr. Branford has for years voted with the republican party but is now identified with the progressive movement which holds to the teachings of Roosevelt, believing that the time is ripe for a forward step in politics rather than the blind following of party leaders who seek the advancement of self rather than the welfare of the country.

FRANK E. LUNDELL.

Frank E. Lundell is numbered among the influential citizens of Stratford, of which place he has been postmaster since 1908. He was born in Boone county, Iowa, and is a son of John and Augusta (Peterson) Lundell, both of whom are natives of Sweden. The paternal grandfather, Lars Larson, a native of Sweden, who followed farming for a livelihood, died in his native country in 1852. The grandmother, Sophia (Olofson) Larson, was later married to Swan Hossellstrom, and with her husband emigrated to America,

settling in Marion township, Hamilton county, in 1873, on a farm where she has since continued to reside, being now eighty-one years of age. The father of our subject, John Lundell, was reared and educated in Sweden and in 1871 he emigrated to America locating first in Chicago, at which place he established his headquarters. Shortly after reaching Chicago he engaged in work in the pineries of Michigan and during his time of employment in the northern lumber woods he lost all of his personal belongings in the great Chicago fire. On his return to Chicago he removed to Hamilton county and there rented a farm, which he operated until 1881, after which time he came to Stratford and engaged in the livery business. He also bought and sold cattle and hogs and speculated in real estate, continuing in that business for a period of fifteen years. One of his principal real-estate transactions was the purchase of sixty-six acres of land within the corporate limits of Stratford. He platted that property and recorded the plat as Lundell's addition to the city of Stratford. Since 1900, with the exception of two years, he has been identified with the mercantile business. John Lundell was united in marriage to Augusta Peterson in December, 1875. She is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Peterson, both of whom are natives of Sweden. To Mr. and Mrs. Lundell six children have been born: Frank E., the subject of this review; Samuel, who is manager of the elevator at Stratford; Amy, at home; Adelia, the wife of Roy Coulter, of Stratford; Olga, who married George Harmon, who is employed as bookkeeper in the State Bank; and Maudie, who is engaged in teaching school. Mr. Lundell is affiliated with the democratic party and has served as councilman for eighteen years. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Stratford.

Frank E. Lundell was reared in his parents' home and received his education in the public schools of Hamilton county, Iowa. After completing his school course he accepted a clerkship with the mercantile firm of Swanson & Rodine, with whom he remained until 1896. During that year he suffered a severe accident which resulted in the loss of his left leg above the knee, in consequence of which he was incapacitated for further service of any kind until 1898. He then became manager of his father's business and continued in that position until 1907. On February 17, 1908, he was appointed postmaster of Stratford and has since continued to serve with great acceptability in that office and has this year been reappointed. He is the owner of the business block which is occupied by the postoffice and is the vice president of the State Bank of Stratford.

Mr. Lundell was united in marriage to Miss Jessie R. Hakes on the 18th of March, 1903. She is a daughter of David Brainard and Maria A. (Cleveland) Hakes, the former a native of New York and the latter of Wisconsin. The father came to Hamilton county at an early day and was engaged in work at Hooks Point for some time. He later acquired an interest in a general store, which he conducted for several years. He then purchased an improved farm located east of Stratford, which he operated for a number of years and then removed to Dakota, where he was successfully engaged in the cattle business. He later returned to Hamilton county and reestablished his home on his farm located in Marion township, where he still lives.

Mr. Lundell is affiliated with the republican party and he and his wife are members of the Methodist church of Stratford. Mr. Lundell enjoys the confidence and esteem of all his fellow citizens and is a man who readily gives his influence to the advancement of any public measure which will improve the conditions of the people in his state and county.

ANDREW OWENSON.

Andrew Owenson cultivates two hundred acres of fine farm land on section 35, Ellsworth township, and owns fourteen acres in the same district. The care which he bestows upon the development and improvement of the farm together with his modern methods rank him among the representative agriculturists of Hamilton county. He is a native son of the section in which he now resides, having been born in Ellsworth township on October 29, 1864. His parents were Owen and Carrie Owenson, natives of Norway. His father was born in 1830 and came to America at an early date. He died in Ellsworth township, August 4, 1878. The mother of our subject was born in 1831 and died April 24, 1902. They became the parents of five children: Mary, who passed away April 5, 1881, when she was twenty-seven years of age; Gertrude, deceased; Andrew, of this review; Mrs. Carrie Boyd, who was born in Ellsworth township, January 8, 1867; and Peter, whose birth occurred June 12, 1869, and who is now residing in this section. The two elder children in this family were born in Norway, but the others are natives of Ellsworth township.



MR. AND MRS. OWEN OWENSON

Andrew Owenson was educated in the public schools of his native section and since the beginning of his active career has been identified with progressive farming. He now cultivates two hundred acres of fertile and productive land on section 35 and is one of the most widely known and highly respected citizens of his community. He gives his allegiance to the republican party and is a devout adherent of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Randall. He has won success by steadily adhering to high business standards and by keeping pace with the modern advancement of agricultural methods, while the firm qualities of honorable industry and unquestioned integrity which are elements in his character, rank him among Hamilton county's most deservedly honored sons.

PETER FROHLING.

Peter Frohling, who lives on a farm of three hundred and thirty-seven acres located on section 35, Cass township, which he has been cultivating for the past fourteen years, was born in Ost Friesland, Germany, on the 12th of February, 1865. He is the youngest of the five children born to George and Nettie Frohling, natives of Germany, where the father is still residing at the age of seventy-eight years. The mother, however, is deceased, her death having occurred in 1890, at the age of sixty-five years.

At the age of twenty years Peter Frohling took passage for the United States, with Monticello, Illinois, as his destination. He was familiar with agricultural pursuits and readily found employment on a farm, where he worked for three years. As he was thrifty and diligent he managed to save enough money during that time to begin farming for himself, so he rented some land which he cultivated until 1892. In the latter year he removed to Indiana, continuing to farm as a renter in that state until 1898, when he came to Hamilton county. Upon his arrival here he rented the place where he now resides and he has ever since engaged in general farming and stock-raising, meeting with a fair measure of success. Since locating here he has bought a farm comprising eighty acres of land, on section 36, this township, which he is renting to his son-in-law, W. A. Walker. The place is well improved and his fields are tiled and fenced, partly hog tight, and under high cultivation. Mr. Frohling devotes much of his attention to stock-raising, making a specialty of Duroc Jer-

sey hogs and Belgian horses, and he also buys and feeds cattle for the market. He is prospering in his undertakings, his persistency of purpose and honorable, straightforward methods in the conduct of his undertakings bringing him well merited success and the esteem and respect of his fellow citizens.

In 1889, Mr. Frohling was married to Miss Fannie Hayungs who was born in Germany on the 9th of July, 1865, and is a daughter of John and Hannah Hayungs, who came to America in 1902. Both parents are now deceased, the father's death occurring in February, 1909, and that of the mother on the 11th of April, 1912. They are buried in Graceland cemetery, Webster City. Mrs. Frohling, who is the second in order of birth in a family of six, had six children, as follows: John, who died at the age of seventeen years; Nettie, the wife of W. A. Walker of Cass township and the mother of one child; George, who is living at home; Henry, who died at the age of two years; and Henry and Hannah, who are also at home.

Mr. Frohling enjoys the full rights of citizenship, but he has never identified himself with any political body, giving his support to such men and measures as in his opinion are best adapted to serve the interests of the people. Before coming to the United States he served two years in the German army, and while he has never had occasion to regret transferring his allegiance to this country and is perfectly loyal to its institutions, he yet finds much to commend and admire in the land of his birth.

TIMOTHY C. O'CONNOR.

Timothy C. O'Connor, who owns and operates a farm of two hundred acres located on section 12, Independence township, was born in Henry, Marshall county, Illinois, and is a son of Michael and Elizabeth (M'Cauliff) O'Connor. The father was born in Ireland but when a youth of sixteen he emigrated to the United States, and for four years thereafter worked on a farm in the vicinity of Rochester, New York. He subsequently went to Rockford, Illinois, where he was married about 1860, and during the next three years was employed in a foundry. At the expiration of that time he once more turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, and during the succeeding eight years farmed as a renter in the vicinity of Henry, Marshall county, Illinois. In the spring of 1871, he came to Iowa with his

family and settled on forty acres of land in Independence township. He diligently cultivated his farm for twenty-one years, but in 1892 he sold it and invested the proceeds in the place owned by our subject, which they operated jointly for eight years. Both parents are now deceased, the mother having passed away in 1884, and the father on the 29th of March, 1910. The family of Mr. and Mrs. O'Connor numbered eight, our subject being fifth in order of birth.

Timothy C. O'Connor was reared on his father's farm and educated in the common schools. He passed the early years of his life in very much the same manner as other lads who are reared in rural districts, and after leaving school assisted with the work of the fields and care of the stock until his father bought the place, where Mr. O'Connor is now living. For eight years thereafter the father and son engaged in cooperative farming, but at the end of that time they sold their equipment and stock and the latter bought eighty acres of land near Kamrar, which he cultivated for five years. He subsequently disposed of that place and bought the old homestead to which he returned in the spring of 1907. Here he engages in general farming and the raising of stock, making a specialty of Percheron horses and Duroc Jersey hogs, and he also buys and feeds cattle for the market. His land is tiled and fenced, some of it hog tight and his fields are largely devoted to the raising of corn and oats, which are his chief crops. Mr. O'Connor takes a great deal of pride in keeping up his property and his farm is equipped with everything essential to its operation. In 1907 he erected a large barn, forty by fifty feet, and four years later he remodeled the residence, which was built in 1901. He holds the original deed from the government for his land, bearing the signature of Franklin Pierce.

In 1905 Mr. O'Connor was married to Miss Dorothy Waddell, a daughter of John and Margaret (Wright) Waddell. The parents were born and reared in Ireland and there they were also married, coming to the United States upon their wedding journey. They first located in Boston, where he was engaged in contracting and building until 1876. In the latter year they came to Iowa and for four years thereafter the father farmed as a renter, but at the end of that time he gave up agricultural pursuits and went to Eagle Grove and resumed contracting and building. The first white child born in the town was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Waddell, who were among the very early settlers there. He erected the first hotel, and the first religious services were held in his carpenter shop. The remainder of his life, with the exception of seven years spent on a farm in South

Dakota, was passed in Eagle Grove, where he passed away on the 14th of September, 1911. He is survived by the mother, who is now seventy-seven years of age and continues to make her home in Eagle Grove. Fourteen children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Waddell, Mrs. O'Connor being the thirteenth in order of birth. Mr. and Mrs. O'Connor have one child, Claude Waddell, born October 15, 1908.

Fraternally Mr. O'Connor is affiliated with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, and his political support he accords the republican party. He and Mrs. O'Connor attend the Congregational church at Blairsburg, and contribute toward its maintenance.

LAEL M. AND CARL E. PETERSON.

Lael M. and Carl E. Peterson, owners and publishers of the Stratford Courier and also dealers in musical instruments, are numbered among the enterprising, successful citizens of Stratford. Lael M. Peterson was born January 3, 1880, at Moline, Illinois, and Carl E. Peterson was born August 6, 1881, at Des Moines. They are the sons of Clement P. and Josephine C. (Lindstrom) Peterson, the former a native of Sweden. The father at the age of seven years emigrated to America with his parents, who located first at Chicago and later at Moline, Illinois, where the grandfather was engaged as superintendent of the woodworking department of the John Deere Plow Works and continued to be identified with that company for thirty continuous years, after which time he took up his abode in Chicago, and died in the spring of 1910. The grandmother died in 1900. Clement Peterson, the father of our subject, was reared at home and received his elementary education in the public schools of Moline, Illinois. After completing his school days he engaged in work in a drug store and later bought a drug store, which he conducted until 1880. He then moved to Des Moines and there became connected with the drug business, in which occupation he continued until 1884. He then came to Stratford, Iowa, and in company with J. D. Mathews established himself in the drug business under the firm name of Peterson & Mathews, and continued in that partnership until 1897. In that year he was appointed postmaster of Stratford, a position which he held until the time of his death, which occurred June 29, 1905, at the age of forty-eight years. The mother, now fifty-six years of age, lives in Boulder, Colorado.

L. M. and C. E. Peterson were reared at home and received their early education in the schools of Stratford. Immediately following the close of their school years, on March 1, 1899, they purchased the Stratford Courier, a weekly paper, which they have since continued to publish. In 1909 they added to their publishing business a musical business and in that department they handle the Hobart M. Cable piano, the Moline and Baldwin, making a specialty and leader in their business of the Hobart M. Cable instrument. The Peterson brothers own their own plant and building in which it is installed and each of them also owns his own residence.

L. M. Peterson was united in marriage August 8, 1910, to Miss Maude Tuel, a daughter of John and Alice (Van Wonner) Tuel, the father a native of Iowa, and the mother of Michigan. C. E. Peterson was married on the 4th of July, 1904, to Miss Grace Whiteman, a daughter of William and Mary (Atkinson) Whiteman, the former a native of Illinois, and the latter of California. The brothers are stanch progressives in their political beliefs. C. E. Peterson was appointed postmaster of Stratford in 1905, in which office he served until April, 1908. He has fraternal relations with the Modern Woodmen of America. L. M. Peterson is a member of the Masonic lodge and is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Rebekahs. The brothers are members of the Swedish Lutheran church of Stratford. They are business men whose integrity has never been questioned and they are numbered among the progressive and useful citizens of that part of the state.

PETER M. PHILLOPS.

One of the representative agriculturists of Scott township is Peter M. Phillops, who owns four hundred and forty acres of choice land located on section 33, which he devotes to diversified farming and stock-raising. His entire life has been passed in this immediate vicinity, his birth having occurred on the farm where he now resides on the 18th of January, 1869. His father, Canute Phillops, was born in Bergen, Norway, on September 12, 1834, and there passed the first sixteen years of his life. In 1850, the family emigrated to the United States, arriving in this country after a long and exceedingly rough passage, which occupied ten weeks and three days. They first settled in Dane county, Wisconsin, but later they removed to La Salle

county, Illinois. The family consisted of two sons and two daughters, Ann M., Helen, Canute and Peter. When the call came for troops during the early days of the Civil war, Peter and Canute enlisted as members of Company F, Thirty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. They gave valiant service to the land of their adoption, Peter having given his life to the cause, his death occurring in the hospital at Murfreesboro in February, 1864. Canute participated in the battles of Pea Ridge, Perryville and Stone River. At the latter place he was taken prisoner, but was subsequently paroled and sent to Annapolis, where he did provost duty until 1863. He rejoined his regiment just prior to the battle of Missionary Ridge and was also at Adairsville, where he was wounded in the thigh. The succeeding few weeks were spent in army hospitals at various points, and in September, 1864, he was discharged and returned to La Salle county. Very soon thereafter he came to Hamilton county, where he acquired the land now owned by our subject, in Scott township, and devoted the remainder of his active life to the development of his farm. Here he was married on the 9th of July, 1865, to Mrs. Melinda Christianson Larson, who was born in Norway on May 12, 1827, and passed away in Scott township on the 10th of July, 1896. The maternal grandparents passed their entire lives in the Norseland. To Mr. and Mrs. Phillops was born, beside our subject, one daughter, Petra Christina, who died in infancy. The father, who was one of the highly esteemed pioneer settlers of Hamilton county, passed away on his farm on the 2d of April, 1906. Among the valued possessions of the Phillops family are two letters written by the brothers, Canute and Peter, while at the front during the Civil war. The one from the father is from Camp Hoffman and bears the date of April 2, 1862, while the other is a joint letter from the two brothers, and was written on November 11, of the same year.

The experiences which came to Peter M. Phillops during his minority were very similar to those which fell to the lot of other lads reared in this section during the pioneer period. He obtained his education in the common schools of the community, his advantages being neither better nor worse than those of the average youth of that time. He early began rendering his father such assistance about the fields and barns as his age and strength permitted, thus qualifying himself for the duties of the vocation he is now following. As the years passed he assumed more and more of the responsibility about the farm, of which he had the entire management prior to succeeding to the title of the property. His fields are operated in accordance

with the advanced methods of agriculture and in connection with general farming he is engaged in the breeding and raising of high-grade stock. He is a man of progressive ideas and enterprising methods, as is evidenced by his well improved place, which is provided with the most up-to-date machinery, implements, comforts and conveniences. Naturally he takes great pride in keeping up his farm, which is endeared to him by associations of a life-time and was the birthplace of his children.

On the 6th of February, 1890, Mr. Phillops was married to Miss Anna Maria Peterson, whose birth occurred on a farm a mile north of Story City, Story county, Iowa, on the 14th of June, 1871. There she was likewise reared to womanhood and educated, her entire life having been passed in this section of Iowa. She is a daughter of Eric J. and Julia (Johnson) Peterson, the father having been born in Norway on the 11th of June, and the mother in Dane county, Wisconsin. The father, who is a veteran of the Civil war, was for many years actively engaged in farming in Story county, but he has now retired and he and the mother are spending their latter years in a comfortable residence in Story City. Their children, twelve in number, are as follows: Mrs. Caroline Nordskog, who was born on the 6th of July, 1867, a resident of Des Moines; Mrs. Phillops; Michael P., whose birth occurred on November 27, 1873, of Wyoming; Eric D., whose natal day was the 28th of November, 1875, living on the old homestead a mile north of Story City; Mrs. Julia Wick, who was born on January 23, 1878, a resident of Roland, Iowa; Mrs. Johanna Holland, who was born on the 6th of April, 1880, of Scott township; Peter J., whose birth occurred on the 2d of December, 1882, residing in Wyoming; Mrs. Sarah Holland, who was born July 2, 1884, of Ellsworth township; Margaret, whose natal day was the 4th of April, 1887, living on the old homestead; Gerhart R., who was born on June 26, 1891, also on the home farm; Peter J., who died at the age of eleven years; and one, who died in infancy. The parents located in Story county in 1858, and there their children were all born and reared.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Phillops numbers seven, all of whom have been born on the old Phillops homestead. In order of birth they are as follows: Mrs. Julia Melinda Vangness, who was born on the 27th of April, 1891, and is now a resident of Story county; Clarence J., whose birth occurred January 6, 1895; Jennie Christina, whose natal day was the 5th of November, 1896; Myrtle Marie, who was born February 20, 1899; Harvey Davis, whose birth occurred February 11, 1902; Joseph El Roy, who was born on the 5th of March, 1907; and

Mildred Ruth, born March 25, 1911. All but the first named are living at home. Mr. and Mrs. Phillops also have one grandchild, Obert Melbourne Vangness, who was born on the 3d of March, 1912.

The family are devout members of the Norwegian church. Politically Mr. Phillops is a republican and has served creditably both as constable and school director. He is public-spirited in matters of citizenship and is ready and willing to support every worthy project. As a business man he is honorable and upright, conducting his transactions in an honest and straightforward manner, and is held in high esteem throughout the community, as was also his father, who is well remembered by many of the older residents and is spoken of in terms of the highest respect.

O. N. SEXY.

One of the representative citizens of Ellsworth is O. N. Sexy, who was formerly identified with the agricultural development of Lincoln township, but eighteen years ago withdrew from the active work of the farm and removed to town, and here he has ever since made his home. He is one of the public-spirited, enterprising men of the community and served with efficiency as mayor of the town, while for the past nine years he has been a member of the board of trustees of Lincoln township.

He was born in Norway, in June, 1852, and is a son of M. M. and Emily (Ophdahl) Sexy, who were born, reared and married in Norway, where the mother passed away in December, 1859. The father, who always engaged in farming in the old country, emigrated to America with his family in 1868, locating in Lee county, Illinois. There he worked out by the month until 1875, when he came to Story county, Iowa, and five years later he took up his residence with his children in Hamilton county, continuing to make this his home until he died in December, 1897.

O. N. Sexy was a youth of fifteen years when he emigrated to the United States with his father. He completed his education in the common schools of this country, and then worked out by the month as a farm hand. He was ambitious and enterprising and subsequently acquired sufficient money to begin farming for himself, so he rented some land in Illinois, which he cultivated for two years. In 1875 he came to Story county, Iowa, where he continued to farm as a renter for a



O. N. SEXY AND FAMILY

few years. At the expiration of that period, in 1879, he bought eighty acres of land in Lincoln township, Hamilton county, and assiduously applied himself to its further improvement and cultivation. His efforts in this direction were gratifyingly rewarded and at various periods he increased his holdings until he at one time held the title to three hundred and sixty acres of land. He engaged in general farming and stock-raising until 1894, when he withdrew from agricultural pursuits and removed to Ellsworth, where he owns a very pleasant and attractive residence property.

In August, 1877, Mr. Sexy was married to Miss Julia Reisetter, a daughter of Hogen and Maria (Sampson) Reisetter, natives of Norway. The parents emigrated to America in their early life, locating in Lee county, Illinois, where Mrs. Sexy was born on the 23d of December, 1855.

Mr. and Mrs. Sexy are members of the Lutheran church. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Masons, being a member of the Shrine, and he also belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America. In politics he is a republican and takes an active interest in all municipal affairs, and has served both as a member of the council and mayor. Mr. Sexy is a man of many estimable qualities, and his record should be an incentive to every ambitious, enterprising youth, as it clearly manifests that perseverance and diligence are more essential factors in the acquirement of success than favorable circumstances. He started out in life with no capital save an inexhaustible supply of energy and unlimited faith in his own powers to achieve his ambition, and has attained a position that fully entitles him to the esteem and respect he is accorded by his fellow townsmen.

OLUF MARTIN CHRISTIAN BRANJORD.

Diversified farming and stock-raising successfully engage the energies of Oluf Martin Christian Branjord, who is cultivating two hundred acres of the old Branjord homestead located on section 18 of Scott township and known as "Elm Lawn Farm." His birth occurred on the place where he now resides on the 30th of April, 1883, his parents being Ole O. and Helene Christina (Rahto) Branjord. They are both natives of Norway and there they were likewise reared and married. After the birth of their second child they emigrated

to the United States, first settling in Hardin county, where were born their next two children. In 1871, they became residents of Scott township, and here the father successfully engaged in farming for many years. He has now retired and he and the mother are spending their declining years in a comfortable residence in Ellsworth. To this worthy couple were born eleven children, of whom our subject is the youngest. The other members of the family are as follows: Olena Christina, Mary Antoinette and Martin, all of whom are deceased; Berent M., an attorney in Spokane, Washington; Olena and Mary, both deceased; Nettie, the wife of John H. Sparboe, whose biography appears in this work; and Christina, Oluf and Nettie deceased. The younger members of the family were born on the old homestead in this township, where they were all reared.

Practically the entire life of Oluf M. C. Branjord has been passed amid the scenes with which he is familiar. At the usual age he became a student in the district schools, completing his education with a business course pursued in the Capital City Commercial College at Des Moines in 1903. Having been reared on a farm, his energies were early directed along agricultural lines and upon his return home, he leased two hundred acres of the old homestead, and has ever since been engaged in its cultivation. In connection with diversified farming he is raising full-blooded Shorthorn cattle and Chester White hogs, and is meeting with a good measure of success. He is a man of progressive ideas and energetic methods and in the development of his interests is winning the prosperity which invariably accompanies intelligently applied effort.

In April, 1905, Mr. Branjord was united in marriage to Miss Anna Christena Charlson, who was born in Scott township, Hamilton county, on the 17th of May, 1882, and was there reared to womanhood. She is a daughter of Ole I. and Sarah (Knutson) Charlson, natives of Norway, and pioneer settlers of Scott township, where for many years the father engaged in farming. They subsequently removed to Story City, where the father lived in retirement until his death on August 15, 1911. The mother is still living and continues to make her home in Story City. The Charlson family numbered eight, Mrs. Branjord being the sixth in order of birth. The others are as follows: Edward, a resident of Canada; Chris, who is living in Minneapolis; Annis, whose home is in Minnesota; Mrs. Henrietta Knutson, who resides in the vicinity of Jewell, Iowa; Oscar, who is living on the home farm in Scott township; Mrs. M. G. Olson, of Randall; and Henry, who is deceased. They were all born

and reared on the home farm in Scott township. To Mr. and Mrs. Branjord have been born two daughters and two sons, as follows: Olive Amanda, whose birth occurred March 15, 1906; Myrtle Leona, whose natal day was the 7th of February, 1908; Donald Lawrence, who was born on the 15th of December, 1910; and Vernon Marion, whose birth occurred on the 19th of August, 1912.

Mr. and Mrs. Branjord are members of the United Lutheran church and are rearing their family in that faith. In politics he is independent, giving his support to such men and measures as he deems best qualified to subserve the highest interests of the people, and is now serving on the local school board. Mr. Branjord is a young man of many estimable qualities and enjoys the esteem and respect of his neighbors and fellow townsmen, many of whom have known him from childhood and regard him as a worthy representative of an honored pioneer family.

JOHN E. PETERSON.

A man who makes his way alone in a foreign land from early youth, and through his individual efforts attains a position that commands the respect of his fellow townsmen, is deserving of high commendation, as it not only bespeaks the possession of unusual powers but the persistency, energy and determination of purpose, which never recognize defeat. Of such as these is John E. Peterson, who is engaged in the retail drug business in Ellsworth, and is recognized as one of the representative business men in local commercial circles.

His birth occurred in Norway, on the 14th of February, 1873. The parents were born in the Norseland, where the mother still resides, but the father has passed away. When a child of twelve years, John E. Peterson left the parental roof and came to America in search of his fortune. He made the long, tiresome journey alone, coming direct to Ellsworth. Here he worked out by the week as a farmer's assistant and was accorded the privilege of attending school during the winter months. He was ambitious and enterprising, and determined to make a name and a place for himself among the respected citizens of his community. Every moment of his leisure time was spent to good advantage in improving his education, while he saved his money with equal care, thus acquiring the means to continue his studies. He early resolved to become a druggist, and with this pur-

pose in view, subsequently went to Highland Park College, Des Moines, Iowa, where he took a course in pharmacy. He satisfactorily passed the state examination and was awarded his license in 1904, following which he returned to Ellsworth and found employment in the store of C. D. Knapp & Company. In 1906 he bought out this firm and engaged in business for himself. He has been very successful, as he has manifested in the development of his business the same unabating energy, perseverance and unswerving purpose that characterized him in boyhood. He carries only drugs of first class quality, and also handles toilet articles and such sundries as are usually found in establishments of this kind. Mr. Peterson owns his residence in Ellsworth and he is also a stockholder in the Randall Lumber Company.

In 1898 he celebrated his marriage to Miss Laura Igon, a daughter of M. G. Igon, formerly of this county, but now of Colorado. Mrs. Peterson is the second child in a family of five and was born on February 29, 1882. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Peterson: one, who died in infancy; Ruth E.; and Mildred P.

Mr. Peterson gives his political allegiance to the republican party. He is public-spirited and takes an active interest in all local affairs and served for six years as committeeman from Lincoln township. Mr. Peterson is held in high esteem in the community and numbers among its citizens many staunch friends. He is a man of laudable ambition, high standards of conduct, and unceasing diligence, and is meeting with the success in his career that invariably rewards capably organized and intelligently directed activities.

HENRY THOMPSON.

Henry Thompson is one of the enterprising and prosperous farmers of Lincoln township, in which he resides and where he is successfully operating a highly developed farm of two hundred and forty acres. He was born in Illinois, January 28, 1855, and is a son of Knud and Christina (Erickson) Thompson, both of whom were natives of Norway and who emigrated to America at an early day and located in Kendall county, Illinois, where the father was engaged in the cultivation of rented land for a period of ten years. He then purchased a farm on which the family lived for ten years, after which time he sold that property, and in 1862 he bought two hundred acres

of land in Story county, Iowa, for which he paid ten dollars per acre, and on that property he continued to reside until the time of his death, which occurred in 1899. The mother died in 1902.

Henry Thompson was reared in his parents' home and received his early education in Story county, Iowa. He remained under the parental roof until he was twenty-one years of age, at which time he started in life for himself as a lessee of his father's farm, which he successfully operated for three years. Subsequently, in 1881, he removed to Hamilton county and there purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land located in Lincoln township and later bought additional property adjoining his original purchase until he is now the owner of two hundred and forty acres, all of which he has improved by an expenditure of five thousand dollars invested in tile, with which he has established a perfect drainage system over his entire place. On his property he has a herd of fifty head of well selected dairy cattle and in his business he uses fifteen head of draft horses. He also raises an average of one hundred hogs per annum.

Mr. Thompson was united in marriage to Miss Belle Sexy in May, 1877. She is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nels Sexy, of whom additional mention is made in the sketch of O. N. Sexy, published in another part of this work. To Mr. and Mrs. Thompson twelve children have been born, as follows: Cornelius, who passed away on the 16th of April, 1902; and Nelson, Elmer, Harry, Andrew, Edward, Evelyn, Christina, Lillian, Olive, Cora and Cornelia. Mr. Thompson belongs to the republican party and was elected trustee of Lincoln township but refused to accept the office. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Ellsworth, Iowa, and he and his family are affiliated with the Lutheran church. Mr. Thompson is successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits and is numbered among the most enterprising and up-to-date farmers of the community in which he lives. He is a man who is interested in every public measure affecting the welfare of the people in his county and state.

JAMES CARUTH.

The late James Caruth was for more than a quarter of a century actively and successfully identified with the agricultural development of Hamilton county, where he acquired five hundred acres of valuable farming land in addition to his residence in Ellsworth. He

was born in Ireland on the 5th of August, 1848, and is a son of Andrew and Jennie Caruth. The parents were born, reared and married on the Emerald isle. The first two years of their residence in America were passed in Washington county, Pennsylvania. They subsequently went to West Virginia and after a sojourn there of two years located in Belmont county, Ohio. Nine years later they settled in Lee county, Illinois, which remained their place of residence during the remainder of their lives. They were the parents of eight children, the two youngest being our subject and his twin brother.

James Caruth was a child of five years when he came to America with his parents. He was reared at home and acquired his education in the common schools of the various states in which they resided. He remained with his parents until his marriage at the age of twenty-five years, and shortly afterward came to Iowa, purchasing eighty acres of government land in Williams township, this county, which he cultivated for two years. Later he sold his place and returned to Illinois. At the expiration of a year he once more took up his residence in Hamilton county, where he bought one hundred and sixty acres of partially improved land in Lyon township. He was a man of great energy and determination of purpose, and diligently applied himself to the further improvement and cultivation of his farm, in which he met with more than average success. As his circumstances permitted he added to his property until he held the title to five hundred acres of excellent land. In 1903 he left the farm and removed to Ellsworth, where he purchased an attractive residence and lived in retirement until his death, which occurred on the 6th of May, 1905. He is buried in Homewood cemetery.

On New Year's day, 1873, Mr. Caruth was married to Miss Esther M. Mayne, a daughter of Thomas and Jane (McBroom) Mayne, natives of Ireland, who came to America with their parents in early life. They were married in St. Lawrence county, New York, and there the mother died. In 1861 the father removed with his family to Illinois, where he resided until 1875, when he came to Iowa and in this state he passed the remainder of his life, his death occurring about the year 1892. Mrs. Caruth, who was born January 8, 1849, is the seventh in a family of fifteen children, and became the mother of four. In order of birth they are as follows: Charles, who is married and residing on the old homestead in Lyon township; Jennie May, the wife of John Candle, a farmer of Rose Grove township, this county, by whom she has had four children; Sarah E., the wife of Zan Slade, a farmer of this county and the mother of two

children; and Harvey J., a farmer of this county, who is married and has two children.

Mr. Caruth affiliated with the Congregational church, as does his widow and family, and fraternally he was identified with the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Politically he was a democrat and served for two terms as school director. His residence in Hamilton county covered the formative period in the development of this section of the state, the prairies of which he saw converted into highly improved farms, while settlements and villages became thriving towns and cities. Mrs. Caruth still resides in Ellsworth, where she has many friends.

GEORGE M. FLAWS.

George M. Flaws, who is successfully engaged in the cultivation of one hundred and twenty acres of fertile land located on section 23, Cass township, was born in Chicago, Illinois, on the 12th of June, 1875, and is a son of John and Jane Flaws, natives of Scotland. The parents emigrated to the United States in early life and were married in Chicago, where they resided until 1882. In that year they removed to Nebraska, and there for twenty years the father devoted his energies to agricultural pursuits. In 1902 they came to Iowa, where Mr. Flaws cultivated rented land for six years, but at the expiration of that time he bought a farm on section 23, Cass township, which our subject is now cultivating. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Flaws included: John, and Jessie, the wife of W. F. Bateman, twins; George M. and Robert J., who are also twins; Grace, who married G. A. Fatter; Cecelia, the wife of W. W. Gilmore; Ella, who married B. F. McCoy; and Mabel, who became the wife of John W. Lee. They are all married with the exception of our subject, who is living at home with his mother. The father passed away, June 25, 1910, and is buried in Graceland cemetery at Webster City. Fraternally Mr. Flaws was a member of the Royal Highlanders and the Maccabees, while in politics he was a republican. In matters of religious faith he was a Baptist and his widow and children belong to the same church, in the work of which they have always taken an active interest. At the time of his death Mr. Flaws held the office of deacon in his church.

The education of George M. Flaws was acquired in the public schools of his native city and Nebraska, following which he assisted his father with the work of the farm. After the latter's death he took charge of the home place and is meeting with success in its development. The father had effected many improvements on the farm during the brief period of his ownership, and the son has continued the work along the same lines. The buildings are kept in good repair, the fields are substantially fenced and everything about the place evidences capable supervision and a watchful regard for details that invariably accompanies thrift and prosperity.

Fraternally Mr. Flaws is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Royal Highlanders, and in politics he is republican. He is active and enterprising in the conduct of his affairs and by reason of his progressive methods is numbered among the capable agriculturists of the township.

WALTER CHURCH.

General farming and stock-raising engage the attention of Walter Church, who owns one hundred and twenty acres of land located on section 25, Cass township, which he has cultivated for thirty years. He was born in Hamilton county on the 28th of May, 1861, and is a son of Ebenezer and Caroline (Claflin) Church, natives of Vermont and Canada respectively. They were married in Illinois and in 1856 came to Iowa and purchased a tract of government land in this county, that Mr. Church cultivated until he died in 1883. He was seventy-seven years of age when he passed away while the mother was eighty at the time of her death, which occurred in 1899. They are both buried in Graceland cemetery at Webster City. In politics he was a republican and in religious faith a Methodist while the mother was a Baptist. Mr. Church had been previously married and our subject is the youngest of the four children born of the second marriage.

Walter Church was reared on the farm where he was born and educated in the common schools, remaining at home until he had attained his majority. He began to assist his father with the work of the fields and care of the stock when he was a young lad and by the time he had reached his maturity, he was a skilled agriculturist. Upon leaving home he located on the place which he now owns and began farming for himself. The place was partially developed when he pur-

chased it, but he has erected all of the buildings thereon and fenced and tiled the fields. All of his land, with the exception of about four acres, is under cultivation and is devoted to diversified farming, in connection with which he also raises stock, and has met with success.

In 1883, Mr Church was married to Miss Elizabeth Lachmiller, a daughter of Fred and Marie Lachmiller, who emigrated to the United States soon after their marriage and first located in Ohio, coming from there to Iowa about 1880. The father, who was an agriculturist, engaged in farming in this county until his death in 1892. He is buried in the family lot in Graceland cemetery at Webster City. The mother is still living at the age of seventy-seven years. Mrs. Church, who was the eldest in a family of eight, was born October 15, 1863, and died on the 12th of March, 1900, and was laid to rest in Graceland cemetery. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Church: Malissa Esther, the wife of Benjamin Goehring of this county, by whom she has had one child; and Carrie, Grace and Fred, all of whom are living at home.

The family attend the German Lutheran church at Webster City, in which the mother held membership. Mr. Church votes the republican ticket and takes laudable interest in matters of public import, although he has not held any other office save that of school director, in which capacity he served for seven years. Brotherhood spirit and social diversion Mr. Church finds in his membership with Webster City Lodge, No. 302, Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, which is his only fraternal connection.

LEONARD NELSON MASON.

Leonard Nelson Mason, who is engaged in the cultivation of his father's farm of four hundred and eighty acres located on sections 3 and 10, Independence township, is one of Hamilton county's enterprising and highly promising young agriculturists. He was born in Webster City on the 28th of October, 1887, and is a son of Bridgeman C. and Clara (Olmstead) Mason, natives of Iowa, the father having been the first white child born in Webster City. The paternal grandparents, who were of English birth, located in Iowa during the early pioneer period and were among the first settlers in Hamilton county. As is true in every new country, but little provision had been made for schools at that time and the early education of Bridgeman

Mason was very limited, but he was an ambitious, enterprising youth and through study and reading well qualified himself for a business career. He early became identified with the First National Bank in the capacity of cashier, retaining that position for twenty-two years. Since 1900, he has been dealing quite extensively in Texas real estate, and he is also interested in oil wells in that state. At the present he is devoting a large portion of his time to the brick and tile business in Missouri, but he still retains his residence in Webster City. Mr. Mason is now fifty-six years of age and his wife is fifty-five. They are the parents of three sons, our subject being the second in order of birth. The eldest, Clyde B., is married and living at Lawrence, Kansas; while the youngest, who is also married, is residing in Webster City, where he holds the position of assistant cashier in the First National Bank. After graduating from the public schools, the latter attended the Wentworth Military Academy at Lexington, Missouri, continuing his studies there for three years.

Leonard Nelson Mason was reared at home and at the usual age began his education in the public schools. Having early manifested a desire to become an agriculturist, he spent, after completing his high-school course, three years in the Iowa State College at Ames, qualifying himself for his chosen vocation. He then returned to Webster City and for two years thereafter was employed on his father's farm, thus acquiring a practical knowledge of the duties and responsibilities of an agriculturist. At the expiration of that time he leased the farm from his father, and has ever since been engaged in its cultivation and is meeting with success in his undertakings. Four hundred acres of the four hundred and eighty is tiled and under cultivation, and under the capable supervision and direction of Mr. Mason is annually yielding abundant harvests. In connection with tilling the fields he engages in stock-raising, making a specialty of breeding mules, Duroc Jersey hogs and Shorthorn cattle. He also buys and feeds large quantities of cattle for the market. The Mason farm is one of the best improved and most highly cultivated properties in the township. The entire tract is fenced, two hundred and sixty acres of it hog tight, and it is equipped with two complete sets of buildings, consisting of two residences and about twelve barns and sheds. The house occupied by Mr. Mason was erected in 1909, and is a thoroughly modern frame structure, provided with furnace heat, gas lighting system and running water. The place is well kept up and presents a most attractive appearance, its condition generally

manifesting capable management and efficient and systematic supervision.

On the 28th of October, 1909, Mr. Mason was married to Miss Irene Merrill, a daughter of W. N. and Sophia Merrill, natives of Iowa and residents of Webster City, where the father conducts the Willson hotel. Mrs. Mason whose natal day was the 28th of October, 1888, is the eldest in a family of twelve.

Mr. Mason gives his political support to the republican party and is now serving as president of the school board, to which office he has but recently been elected. He is an energetic young man with high ambitions and is making highly creditable progress in the vocation he has elected to follow.

R. L. DOOLITTLE.

Among the many worthy residents of Liberty township, whose activities have so largely contributed toward forwarding the agricultural development of Hamilton county, must be mentioned R. L. Doolittle. He located here twenty-eight years ago and during the intervening years has increased his realty interests until he now holds title to six hundred and twenty acres of land, the greater portion of which is under cultivation. He is descended in both lines from old colonial stock and is a member of one of Iowa's pioneer families. His birth occurred on the old family homestead in Story county on the 24th of May, 1860, and he is the fifth child of W. R. and Fidelia F. (Ward) Doolittle. The father, a native of Rochester, New York, passed away at Mount Pleasant, Iowa, on Christmas day, 1893. He is survived by the mother, who is living at Roland, this state. She was born and reared in Ohio. The family took up their permanent residence in Story county on the 6th of June, 1856, being among the first settlers in that section. Mr. Doolittle had made a previous trip to the county, looking for a location and land, which he purchased at a dollar and a quarter per acre. In common with the majority of the pioneers they came to their new home in an emigrant wagon, as there were very few railroads west of the Mississippi at that period, the only complete line in the state running from Muscatine to Wilton Junction. Their nearest trading point was Iowa City, while the nearest gristmill was located at Des Moines, to which point they had to haul all of their grain. Owing to the small demand for produce

and the limited and inadequate shipping facilities, prices were low and money scarce. Eggs were three cents a dozen, and all other commodities of the farmer were equally low, which fact together with the uncertain seasons and the innumerable obstacles encountered by the pioneer, made the life of the agriculturist of that period hard and discouraging. It was not unusual at that period to have the trading post forty miles distant and the postoffice fifteen, while any one was a neighbor, who lived within a radius of ten miles. Books and papers were scarce and the members of a household were almost entirely dependent upon their immediate family circle for society. There was a strong bond of unity among those pioneer men and women, however, as their circumstances were practically the same, and their interests largely one. Visitors were few and the traveler who sought their hospitality was cordially received and offered the best shelter their crude homes could give, while the good housewife spread the table with what her pantry afforded, which often was limited in variety if not in quantity. It was in such a home as this that the family of Mr. and Mrs. Doolittle were reared. Aside from our subject, the children were as follows: E. C., deceased; Mrs. Lillie Carlton, a resident of Rolfe Junction; A. P., also deceased; F. D., a resident of Story county; Mrs. George Brown, who is a resident of Gilbert, Iowa; Emma, who lives at Roland with the mother; W. J., of Story City; Elvira, who is deceased; and Ira D., also of Story City. The three eldest members of the family were born in Crawford county, Illinois, and the other seven in Story county, Iowa. They all take much pride in the fact that their maternal ancestors were numbered among the colonists who bravely fought for what they considered to be their rights. Mrs. Doolittle is connected with the family of Dueese, the last of whose male members fell at the Battle of Bunker Hill. An old pocket-book belonging to George Dueese, an uncle of hers and one of the heroes of that famous battle, is still numbered among the valued possessions of the family. Her father, Jonas Ward, was a soldier in the War of 1812, and was within thirty feet of Tecumseh, when that valiant warrior was killed by Colonel R. M. Johnson. Mr. Doolittle, the father of our subject, was one of the volunteers who accompanied the regular soldiers to Spirit Lake at the time of the Indian uprising in that section, his services always being tendered in time of need, despite the fact that his personal interests might suffer thereby.

Although the boyhood of R. L. Doolittle seemed uneventful to him at the time, to the youth of today it must seem full of interesting

happenings. He can recollect when the country from Fort Dodge to Story county was largely unbroken prairie, and has been an interested observer of its development into one of the finest farming sections of the state. He was educated in the district schools and received much the same training as other farmer lads, remaining at home with his parents until he had attained his manhood. One year before his marriage he purchased a hundred and sixty acres of land in Liberty township, this county, on which he and his young wife took up their residence on the 26th of February, 1884. His capital was limited but he was descended from the sturdy stock which subdued the west, and not only possessed faith in his own powers and the unfailing optimism of youth, but the tenacity of purpose and determination of spirit which belongs to the conqueror in any walk of life. Those early years were most difficult, but he would not have had them different, for the greatest happiness of his life was found in conquering adverse conditions, which at times almost engulfed him. He worked early and late in the fields, and Mrs. Doolittle aided his efforts by her capable management of the household affairs, her resources at times being sorely taxed to meet the many needs of an increasing family. The passing years brought prosperity, however, and as his circumstances warranted Mr. Doolittle extended his holdings until he held title to five hundred and sixty acres of land, located on sections 23 and 24. This has been divided into practically three farms, each of which is provided with a full set of improvements. He also owns sixty acres of unimproved land located a mile south of the courthouse at Webster City. Although his extensive interests absorb much of his time, his home and family are his deepest concern. The house is well furnished and provided with good books and music for the benefit of his children. Mr. Doolittle leads an active life as is evidenced by the general appearance of his farm, the condition of which manifests efficient and systematic supervision and management.

In Story county on the 4th of October, 1883, Mr. Doolittle was united in marriage to Miss Annie C. Brown, whose birth occurred there, April 11, 1864. She is a daughter of James F. and Rebecca (Smiley) Brown, natives of Crawford county, Pennsylvania, the father's birth occurring, December 8, 1832, and that of the mother on the 20th of February, 1833. They came to Story county on the 13th of April, 1856, and began their pioneer life on a tract of government land in a house fourteen by sixteen feet. Here they reared their children which were born in the following order: O. S., whose

natal day was the 8th of April, 1857; George P., who was born on December 2, 1858, and died on the home farm north of Gilbert, Iowa, on the 20th of May, 1908; Charlie, a resident of Ames, whose birth occurred on October 12, 1861; Mrs. Doolittle, born April 11, 1864; and Grant, who was born on the 8th of August, 1868, living on the old homestead near Story City. The parents, who are still living, celebrated their golden wedding January 1, 1906. To Mr. and Mrs. Doolittle have been born six children: Charles Frank, who was born February 2, 1885, and died four days later; Effie F., now Mrs. Greiner of Lakefield, Minnesota, who was born March 5, 1887; Fred B., whose birth occurred on the 8th of March, 1890; Guy H., who was born February 11, 1893; Clyde G., who was born on the 13th of October, 1895; and Harry S., whose natal day was the 29th of December, 1900. All are living at home with the exception of Mrs. Greiner, who has two children: Loren Marion, who was born on the 9th of March, 1908; and Lyman Wade, whose birth occurred on February 8, 1911. They are also natives of Liberty township.

Fraternally, Mr. Doolittle is identified with Silver Link Lodge, No. 458, I. O. O. F. of Williams. He gives his political support to the democratic party and has served his township as trustee, while for fifteen years he has been a member of the board of education. He is highly esteemed in his community and is a worthy representative of a respected pioneer family. His home contains several interesting relics among them an old kettle and a skimmer, which were used in the Ward family more than a hundred years ago and were presented to him by his maternal grandmother, and Mrs. Doolittle has a newspaper containing President Lincoln's message to Congress in 1863.

NELS PEHRSON.

Nels Pehrson, who is living retired in Ellsworth, is one of the pioneer settlers of Hamilton county, having located here over forty years ago. He was born in Sweden on the 6th of January, 1837, and is a son of P. and Anna (Neilson) Pehr Swenson, likewise natives of Sweden. The father was one of the prominent citizens of his community, where he owned five farms and a packing house and was also interested in a line of ocean vessels and owned a windmill. He and the mother always resided in the old country, where they both passed away in 1871.

The education of Nels Pehrson was acquired in his native land, and after leaving school he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits and for some years thereafter operated one of his father's farms. In 1869 he resolved to come to America, and with his wife took passage for the United States. The first four months of his residence in this country were spent at Mendota, Illinois. From there he came to Hamilton county, Iowa, where for several years thereafter he worked out by the month, and for a time he carried mail from Williams to Ames, making the journey on horseback. He subsequently removed to Dubuque, entering the employ of the Illinois Central Railroad Company. He also assisted in constructing the bridge across the Mississippi at that point, and for a time conducted a boarding house. Later he went to Clinton, and for three years worked in the sawmill of W. J. Young. In 1876 he once more became a resident of Hamilton county, locating on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Lincoln township. He made all of the improvements on this property and engaged in its cultivation until 1905, when he sold out to his sons and came to Ellsworth, having since made his home at the hotel.

In Sweden on the 29th of December, 1864, Mr. Pehrson was united in marriage to Miss Carriene Turwerson, and to them were born four children: Johanna, the wife of Allen Carter, who is residing in the vicinity of Des Moines; and Nicholas P., Anna and Fritz, all of whom are living on the farm, as is also the mother.

In matters of religious faith both Mr. Pehrson and his family are Lutherans. His political allegiance he gives to the republican party, and while residing in Lincoln township served for four years as road supervisor and he also discharged the duties of school director. Mr. Pehrson has witnessed many changes in Hamilton county during the long period of his residence, in which the conditions of the pioneer period have disappeared with the advent of modern improvements and inventions.

HAROLD H. KEESEE.

Harold H. Keesee, who is engaged in the hotel and livery business in Ellsworth, and is also mail carrier on rural route No. 1, was born in Hamilton county, on the 22d of May, 1874. He is the youngest of the four children born to Harry R. and Sophia D. (Staples) Keesee. The father was a native of Ohio and the mother of Maine, but

they were married in this state, and soon thereafter settled on a farm in Lyon township. There the father continues to reside but the mother passed away in July, 1893, and is buried in Lakins Grove cemetery.

At the age of nineteen years Harold H. Keesee became self-supporting. He followed various occupations, severing his connection with one enterprise and identifying himself with another, whenever he saw an opportunity of advancing his interests. In 1902 he was appointed carrier on the rural mail route from the postoffice at Ellsworth, and is still holding that position. In 1910 he became associated with A. B. Staples in the livery business in Ellsworth under the firm name of Keesee & Staples. This proved to be a profitable venture, and in March of the next year, he still further extended the scope of his activities by engaging in the hotel business. Mr. Keesee is meeting with good returns from his various interests and owns thirty acres of land in Lyon township, which he has acquired through the judicious management and direction of his undertakings.

On March 6, 1894, Mr. Keesee was married to Miss Bertha M. Dalbey, a daughter of F. R. and R. S. Dalbey, of Ellsworth. Mrs. Keesee, being second in order of birth in a family of four, was born on March 10, 1876. Mr. and Mrs. Keesee have four children, Vernal M., Royce R., Beatrice and Roxana Levan.

Fraternally Mr. Keesee belongs to Ellsworth Lodge, No. 619, I. O. O. F., and Enterprise Camp, No. 4100, M. W. A. Politically he is a stanch republican. He enjoys a wide and favorable acquaintance among the citizens of Hamilton county, where he has passed his entire life, and has many friends.

FRED A. SCHRODER.

Fred A. Schroder has for the past twelve years been successfully engaged in business as a carpenter contractor of Webster City. He is a native of Germany, in which country his birth occurred in the year 1868, his parents being John and Minnie (Paup) Schroder. In 1871 they crossed the Atlantic to the United States, settling in Wright county, Iowa, where they still reside. John Schroder has lived retired for the past few years, having won a comfortable competence during his career as an agriculturist. He is now sixty-eight years old and his wife is sixty-six years of age.



MR. AND MRS. F. A. SCHRODER

Fred A. Schroder obtained his education in the country schools of Wright county and after putting aside his text-books worked at farm labor, at the same time learning the carpenter's trade. He abandoned the work of the fields in 1897 and gave his entire attention to carpentering. In 1900 he took up his abode in Webster City, where he has since been engaged in business as a carpenter contractor, his ability being now so widely recognized that his services are always in demand.

Mr. Schroder has been married twice. In 1892 he wedded Miss Kate Sweet of Wright county, by whom he had a son, Ray, who was born in July, 1893. In 1909 he married Anna Bohning, a daughter of August Witte, who is a retired agriculturist, residing in Webster City. The two children of this union are as follows: Leo, whose birth occurred August 25, 1911; and Ruth, who was born January 29, 1912. The family residence is at No. 1001 Bank street in Webster City.

In politics Mr. Schroder is a stanch democrat and while a resident of Wright county he served as school director. Fraternally he is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, belonging to Webster City Lodge, No. 342. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the German Lutheran church. He is a wide-awake, energetic business man of known reliability, who has won success along lines which bear close investigation and scrutiny, for he has never sacrificed the interests of others to further his own prosperity.

OLIFF B. OLSON.

Oliff B. Olson, who owns and operates forty acres of well improved land in Ellsworth township, is one of Hamilton county's pioneers but a native of Illinois, his birth having occurred in La Salle county, that state, on the 13th of October, 1851. He is a son of Lars B. and Uber Olson, natives of Norway. The father was born on the 29th of September, 1806, and the mother on June 21, 1829. It required six months for the former to make his first journey to America, a trip which can now be made in less than that many days. Having decided after two years residence in the United States to locate here permanently, he went back to Norway for his bride. Upon his return he settled in La Salle county, Illinois, residing there until June, 1856, when he removed with his family to Hamilton county, Iowa, locating

on a farm in Ellsworth township. They made the journey from Illinois in an emigrant wagon, as there were but few railroads west of the Mississippi at that time. The Indians still inhabited the forests, and although they were near neighbors and frequent visitors never caused any trouble. There were but few white settlements and these were scattered along the river, and where today are highly cultivated farms and thriving towns, stretched miles of unbroken prairie. Market facilities were very poor and there was but little demand for the products of the farmer, butter only bringing four cents per pound at Nevada, Iowa, while dressed hogs commanded two dollars and twenty-five cents per hundred. The first butter the father sold he hauled to Iowa City, a distance of one hundred and five miles. Their nearest trading point at that time was Iowa City, and as the roads were little more than wagon tracks across the prairie they only made the journey at rare intervals. The hardships and privations endured by those brave men and women who formed the advance guard of civilization can hardly be imagined by the present generation, as the farm house of today is very often provided with all the comforts and conveniences found in the modern city residence.

To Lars B. Olson and his first wife there were born two children, Oliff and Mrs. Esther Knutson, both of whom are now deceased. By his second marriage were born the following children: Oliff B., our subject; Mrs. Melinda Henderson, whose birth occurred on the 29th of June, 1853, and who died November 16, 1900; Caroline, whose birth occurred June 13, 1855; Lizzie, who was born June 1, 1857; Ida, born May 5, 1859; Mrs. Melinda Millang, born July 6, 1861; Ida, who was born January 2, 1864, and passed away on the 23d of February, 1888; and Gertha, who was born August 15, 1866, and died on the 25th of February, 1871. The father passed away in Ellsworth township on the 12th of October, 1878, but he was long survived by the mother, whose death occurred in the same place, May 18, 1910.

Oliff B. Olson was a lad of only five years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Hamilton county, and here he has since made his home. He passed his boyhood and youth in very much the same manner as other pioneer lads, obtaining his education in the district schools. Mr. Olson relates in a most entertaining manner many interesting experiences of those early days, of which he has a vivid recollection. His energies have always been devoted to agricultural pursuits, in connection with which he has engaged in veterinary surgery for more than twenty years. In this connection he has traveled all over Iowa and the neighboring states and has met

with unusual success. His farm is comprised of forty acres of rich, fertile land, which under his supervision has been brought into a high state of productivity. He is enterprising and progressive and has still further enhanced the value of his place by the erection of substantial buildings, while his equipment is complete and modern.

Mr. Olson was married on the 13th of October, 1875, to Miss Betsey Henderson, whose birth occurred in Kendall county, Illinois, March 26, 1855, her family having located there July 12, 1847. She is a daughter of Lars and Anna (Rafdahl) Henderson, natives of Norway, the father born March 27, 1822, and the mother on the 2d of January, 1826. They removed to Hamilton county in 1857, locating in Scott township, where the mother passed away on the 11th of January, 1862. The father survived her for many years, his death occurring in Ellsworth township, November 12, 1896. He was the second postmaster of Randall, in which capacity he served for a number of years, the office being located in his residence. The first postoffice in the town was located in the old Biggs homestead. Mrs. Olson is the youngest in a family of five children, the others being: H. L. and Mrs. Anna Sheldahl, both of whom are deceased; Oscar, a resident of Scott township; and Thomas.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Olson is as follows: Louis A., who was born on the 6th of December, 1877, and is residing in Elmore, Minnesota; Ubert S., who was born on March 5, 1879, and is living in Randall; Martin G., who was born on the 10th of February, 1881, and is engaged in the creamery business in Randall; Mrs. Anna T. Hall, who was born on the 26th of November, 1883, and resides in Lawn Hill, Hardin county, Iowa; Hiram L., who was born April 28, 1887, and lives in Scott township; Orvel Elmer, who was born December 26, 1889, and died on the 20th of January, 1890; Orvel Milton, who was born January 30, 1891, and is employed in a hardware store in Randall; Ida Belle, who was born on the 5th of May, 1894, and died December 5, the same year; Melvina Belle, who was born September 11, 1896, and is living at home; and Clarence Henry, who was born December 23, 1898, and died on Christmas day, the same year. They were all born on the family homestead in Ellsworth township.

In matters of faith the family are Lutherans and belong to the Norwegian church of that denomination at Randall. His political support Mr. Olson gives to the republican party and since granted the right of franchise has been more or less actively connected with township affairs. He was clerk for twelve years and a member of the school board for fourteen, while for a long period he was road super-

visor. Mr. Olson has a letter written by his maternal grandmother when she was eighty years of age. Naturally the advanced age at which it was written makes it a dearly prized possession, but added to this is the fact that comparatively few Norwegian women of that period were educated. He is equally proud of a curious old writing desk of quaint design, which was formerly the property of his paternal grandfather, and is therefore considerably more than a hundred years old. Among his more recently acquired treasures is a combination Derringer scalping knife presented to him by a friend at Marenco in 1872. Mr. Olson is widely known and highly esteemed in Ellsworth township, as he is a man of high standards of conduct and good business principles, of which he has given substantial evidence in both public and private life.

HENRY HEINS.

Henry Heins, who owns and operates a farm of three hundred and twenty acres on section 9, Independence township, is one of the enterprising citizens Germany has furnished to Hamilton county. He was born in the province of Hanover, on the 27th of February, 1857, and is a son of Frederick and Elsie Heins, who passed their entire lives in the old country. Mr. and Mrs. Heins were the parents of seven children, our subject being the second in order of birth.

Henry Heins was reared and educated in his native land, where he passed the first twenty-four years of his life. In 1882 he emigrated to the United States, coming direct to Hamilton county, where he worked on the railroad with a section crew for a year and then found employment as a farm hand, following the latter occupation for five years. At the expiration of that time he leased his father-in-law's farm, which he cultivated for seven years, thus acquiring sufficient money to buy a hundred and twenty acres of land in Independence township. There he continued his agricultural pursuits for another seven years, and then disposing of his property invested the proceeds in a quarter section of land located in the same township. The further improvement and cultivation of the latter place claimed his attention during the ensuing eight years, at the end of which period he likewise sold it and purchased his present farm, where he has been residing since 1910. Here he engages in general farming, his fields being largely in corn, oats and hay, his principal crops, in connection

with which he makes a specialty of raising stock, breeding Percheron horses, Shorthorn cattle and Poland China and Duroc Jersey hogs. Mr. Heins also buys and feeds large quantities of cattle for the market. He is a man of tireless energy, perseverance and determination of purpose, and is meeting with the success in the development of his interests that invariably crowns well organized and definitely directed effort. His farm is one of the best in the township. It is all fenced, forty acres of it hog tight, and his fields are tiled and in a high state of productivity.

In December, 1887, Mr. Heins was married to Miss Annie Lohman, a daughter of John and Annie Lohman, natives of Germany, where the mother passed away. The father subsequently emigrated to the United States with his family and located on a farm in Hamilton county, which he cultivated until his death in 1902. Mrs. Heins, who is the second in order of birth in a family of four, was born in Germany on the 21st of January, 1857, and has become the mother of seven children. The two eldest, Carl and Louisa, have rented a farm in this township, which they are cultivating, while the next four, Otto, Ernest, Matilda and Lena, are at home. Augusta, the youngest of the family, died at the age of two and a half years.

The family hold membership in the German Lutheran church, of which Mr. Heins has been a trustee for the past five years. He enjoys the privileges of citizenship and accords his political support to the democratic party, but has never been identified with the official life of the township. He is deeply absorbed in his undertaking, and gives his entire time and attention to farming and stock-raising. At the same time he is not remiss in the duties of citizenship and can always be relied upon to sustain every movement that he feels will redound to the general benefit of the community.

COLONEL NORMAN PRESTON HYATT.

Colonel Norman Preston Hyatt, a representative of the Webster City bar whose success had its foundation in liberal college training and whose ability has grown through experience and study since his college days were over, was born here October 28, 1866, his parents being Norman B. and Mary F. (Prouty) Hyatt. The father was a native of Erie county, Pennsylvania, and on removing westward settled in Chicago, where he married. Later he came to Webster

City, arriving on the 2d of February, 1866. Immediately afterward he opened an office and continued in the practice of law throughout his remaining days. He also served as district judge by appointment for a year and his work in the profession called forth approval and patronage because of his devotion to his clients' interests and his careful preparation of his cases. He died in 1901 at the age of sixty-four years, having long survived his wife, who passed away in 1879 when thirty-five years of age.

After leaving the public schools of Webster City, Colonel Hyatt attended the Iowa State University, and was graduated therefrom in 1886 with the degree of Bachelor of Philosophy. He then studied law in his father's office and was admitted to the bar by the supreme court of the state in 1888. He began practice as his father's partner under the firm name of Hyatt & Hyatt, which relation was continued until the death of the senior partner, since which time the Colonel has remained alone. He makes a powerful presentation of his cause, basing his arguments upon sound logic and correct application of legal principles to the points in litigation. Aside from his professional interests he is the proprietor and manager of the Orpheum Theatre and is manager of the Armory Opera House.

On the 21st of May, 1891, Colonel Hyatt was united in marriage to Miss Edith A. Merry, her father being S. H. Merry, a physician of Iowa City. Our subject and his wife have one son, Norman, who was born on the 22d of May, 1895. Colonel and Mrs. Hyatt extend warm-hearted hospitality to their many friends at their pleasant home at No. 828 Elm street.

Colonel Hyatt is well known in both fraternal and military connections, belonging to Acacia Lodge, No. 176, F. & A. M.; Hope Chapter, No. 88, R. A. M.; and Triune Commandery, No. 41, K. T., of which he is captain general. On July 26, 1888, he enlisted as a private in Company C, Sixth Regiment Iowa National Guards, and in a short time received the appointment of sergeant in the same company. On August 8, 1892, he was appointed battalion adjutant of the Fourth Regiment Iowa National Guard with the rank of first lieutenant and held that position until May 25, 1898, when he was mustered into the service of the United States as battalion adjutant in the Fifty-second Regiment Iowa Infantry Volunteers, with the rank of first lieutenant. He served through the Spanish-American war with the First Battalion of that regiment, under command of Major S. J. Parker. Upon the reorganization of the National Guard after the close of the Spanish-American war, he was elected and commissioned

first lieutenant of Company C of the Fifty-sixth regiment. On June 1, 1899, he was elected and commissioned captain of that company. In 1908 he was elected major in the Fifty-sixth regiment; three years later he was promoted to lieutenant colonel; and in September, 1912, was elected colonel of his regiment. His military service covers a period of twenty-four years and his record is unique by reason of the fact that he enlisted as a private and rose from the ranks to be colonel of the regiment in which he first enlisted. He occupies a creditable position in professional, military, fraternal and social circles and in all these his influence is a factor for progress and improvement.

D. MARTIN ANDERSON.

Diligence and enterprise are marked characteristics of D. Martin Anderson, who for several years has been successfully identified with the commercial interests of Randall, where he owns and operates a hardware store. He was born in Story City, Iowa, on the 18th of March, 1882, and is a son of John P. and Mary J. (Idso) Anderson. The father was born in Denmark, whence he emigrated to America in early life, and here he met and married Miss Idso, a native of Kendall county, Illinois. The early period of their domestic life was passed in Story county, Iowa, whence they removed to Jewell Junction, coming from there to Randall, where they now reside. To them were born nine children in the following order: Carl, who was born on the 18th of October, 1878, and is now associated in business with his brother-in-law, Peter J. Oakland; Bertha, who is deceased; D. Martin, our subject; Mrs. Peter J. Oakland; Mabel, who is clerking in the store of Oakland & Company; Anna, deceased; Rasmus, a resident of Randall; and Alfred and Albert, who are deceased. With the exception of the three first named all are natives of Hamilton county, where the parents located during the pioneer period.

Randall has always been the home of D. Martin Anderson, who acquired his education in the public school. On leaving school he began his business career, which has been in every respect a highly creditable one. For two years he was manager of the B. L. Willis Lumber Company of Randall, and during the five succeeding years was employed as bookkeeper in the general mercantile store of Peterson & Christianson. He next became assistant cashier of the Randall Bank, which position he resigned at the expiration of two years in

order to engage in business for himself. He subsequently purchased the hardware store he is now conducting, and although practically unfamiliar with this particular line of business has met with good success and has built up a trade among a desirable class of patrons. He carries a well assorted stock of shelf and heavy hardware, which he offers at reasonable prices, the quality of his goods being fully commensurate with the price.

On the 30th of October, 1903, Mr. Anderson was married to Miss Minelva N. Olson, who was born in Roland, Story county, Iowa, on the 5th of July, 1881, and there she was reared to womanhood and educated. She is a daughter of Jeremiah and Inger Olson, the father, a native of Norway. Mrs. Anderson is the youngest in a family of six children, the others being: Osmond; Edward; Josiah; Mrs. Julia Sigmund; and Mrs. Paulsrud, the wife of G. O. Paulsrud, pastor of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Randall. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have two children: Viola, who was born on the 4th of March, 1906; and Kenneth, whose natal day was the 24th of June, 1910.

Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, in which faith they were reared. He is a progressive republican in his political views and is a member of the board of education of Ellsworth township. He is one of the popular citizens of Randall, where he has hosts of friends, the majority of whom have known him from boyhood and have watched with interest the development of his career.

JOHN E. OLMSTEAD.

John E. Olmstead is a successful cement contractor of Webster City, Iowa, and maintains his business at No. 745 Boone street. He was born in Hamilton county, June 10, 1872, and is a son of John and Harriet (Howard) Olmstead. The father was a native of Bureau county, Illinois, and left that section at an early date to become one of the pioneer settlers of Hamilton county, Iowa. He farmed here until his death in 1888, when he was thirty-eight years of age. His wife is still living in Des Moines, Iowa, where she is well known and highly respected.

John E. Olmstead was educated in the public schools of Hamilton county and followed the usual course of study until his father's death in 1888. At that time the entire management of the farm de-

volved upon him and he carried on agricultural pursuits in Hamilton county until 1892. In that year he removed to Webster City to accept a position in the employ of Ellingson Mathre & Company, with whom he remained until 1895. His identification with the contracting business began in that year and he did general contracting for some time. He gradually evolved a special branch of his enterprise by his constant activity in the cement line of work, and now gives his entire attention to cement contracting. He abandoned the general field in 1900 and has since been identified solely with his present department. He makes a specialty of cement sidewalks and in this line has added to the beauty of Webster City. Over two-thirds of the sidewalks of the city were laid by Mr. Olmstead, as well as the walk which surrounds the magnificent new postoffice building. His operations are not confined exclusively to Webster City and his field of activity extends over the entire state of Iowa. He is known in Webster City as one of its representative and successful business men.

On November 19, 1892, Mr. Olmstead was united in marriage to Miss Anna Giffroy, a daughter of William Giffroy, who is a successful carpenter of Nebraska. To their union have been born four sons: Myron Roscoe, Francis Edwin, Earl and Glen, all of whom are living with their parents in Webster City.

Fraternally Mr. Olmstead is affiliated with Webster City Camp, No. 416, M. W. A.; Forest Camp, No. 103, W. O. W.; and also holds membership in Webster City Tent, No. 79, K. O. T. M. He gives his political affiliation to the republican party but has never sought public office. His business absorbs his entire attention and its flourishing condition at the present time is evidence of his effective methods and his honorable reputation.

REUBEN J. HURD.

High in the annals of the progress and development of Hamilton county stands the name of Reuben J. Hurd, whose residence here covers a period of forty-six years, during which time he has witnessed the state's marvelous transformation from vast stretches of prairie and scattered settlements to highly cultivated farms and thriving towns and cities. Believing implicitly in the country's wonderful agricultural possibilities, he invested as extensively as his circumstances would permit in farm land in Rose Grove and Williams townships,

increasing his holdings as he was able until he now holds title to over seventeen hundred acres in these two townships, and in all to two thousand, seven hundred acres in Hamilton and Hardin counties. He also owns property in Kansas and Minnesota, and is without doubt one of the largest if not the largest landowner in the county.

The life record of Reuben J. Hurd began on a farm in Olean township, Cattaraugus county, New York, on the 16th of August, 1846. In the paternal line he is descended from one of the old colonial families, being a direct descendant of one William Hurd, who located in Plymouth, Massachusetts, in 1623, and has a complete genealogical history of the family back to the year 1639, the records prior to that period having been destroyed in one of the early Indian wars. His father, Elisha H. Hurd, was born in Fabius, New York, on the 18th of June, 1809, and passed away in Rose Grove township, this county, in March, 1879. The mother, whose maiden name was Fannie M. De Kay, was born in New Jersey on the 11th of May 1815, and died in Austin, Minnesota, October 10, 1906. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Hurd numbered eight, as follows: Thomas D., who was born in Allegany county, New York, on May 5, 1838, and for many years engaged in farming in Hamilton county, but is now living retired in Williams; David E., who was born on April 21, 1843, the owner of a large ranch at Hurdsfield, North Dakota, living retired in Monticello, Minnesota; Reuben J., our subject; Addison L., who was born November 11, 1848, and died in 1882; Hannah E., who was born on February 6, 1851, the wife of William J. Snyder, and a resident of Albert Lea, Minnesota; Alpheus E., who was born on the 17th of February, 1853, and resides near Marshall, Minnesota; Horace N., who was born on the 17th of November, 1857, and died in March, 1894; and John H., whose birth occurred on the 1st of September, 1860, a resident of Rice Lake, Wisconsin. The elder members of the family were born in the state of New York, but the two last named are natives of Winneshiek county, Iowa. The early years in the domestic life of Mr. and Mrs. Hurd were passed in New York, whence they removed in 1853 to Woodstock, McHenry county, Illinois, which was their place of residence for a year. In 1854, they continued their journey westward to Winneshiek county, Iowa, whence they later removed to Mower county, Minnesota, and subsequently came to Hamilton county, locating in Rose Grove township in 1866. The first member of the family to become a resident of this county was David E. Hurd, who with Charles Vail located in Rose Grove township on the shores of Iowa Lake in June, 1866. He be-

came one of the prominent men of the county and was for many years associated with Judge Rose in the management of the schools in the township. His wife was a daughter of Randall Fay, a veteran of the Civil war, and one of the first ministers to settle in the county.

The first seven years in the life of Reuben J. Hurd were passed in his native state, where he began his education, completing it in the district schools of Winneshiek county, Iowa. His boyhood and youth were not distinguished by any unusual event from those of the majority of lads who were reared in the middle west during the pioneer days. He accompanied his family on their removal from Winneshiek county to Mower county, Minnesota, in the spring of 1866, coming from there to Rose Grove township, Hamilton county, in the autumn following. At that time there was only one house, the Hawley House, between Alden and Webster City and no settlement west of Alden. The members of the family, who were eligible, filed on government land in Rose Grove township, in the progress and development of which they were dominant factors during the pioneer period. Mr. Hurd has always been distinguished for his diligence and enterprise and to these qualities as well as his foresight and sagacity in business affairs must be attributed much of the success that has attended his efforts. Money was very scarce at that period in this section of the country, and owing to the limited market facilities and poor transportation such crops as were raised did not command a very high price, so the Hurd brothers were compelled to follow any employment that would enable them to earn money in an honorable way. For a time Reuben Hurd and his brother David worked in a stone quarry, which was located a distance from their home, for a dollar a day, walking to and from their work morning and night. The former, for some years, also freighted between Iowa Falls and Fort Dodge. Innumerable hardships and privations were endured by the pioneers of that day, and such as Mr. Hurd who withstood the many discouragements and overcame the obstacles they constantly encountered, highly merit all the success won by their persistence and determination. He extended his holdings as his circumstances permitted until he now owns twelve hundred and six acres of land in Rose Grove township, with six sets of improvements, five hundred and twenty-seven acres in Williams township, with two sets of improvements, and six hundred acres in Hardin county with two sets of improvements. He also owns residence and business property in Williams, and land in both Minnesota and Kansas, which is constantly increasing in value. He was one of the organizers of the First National

Bank of Williams and was its first president and now holds the office of vice president. Mr. Hurd has never entirely withdrawn from agricultural pursuits, although he has not resided on his large farm in Rose Grove township since February, 1896, when he removed to his present place adjacent to Williams. This is one of the very attractive and pleasant properties of the community, and it is his expectation to make it his home during the remainder of his life.

On the 15th of January, 1881, Mr. Hurd was married to Miss Winnie Crane, who was born in Clayton county, Iowa, May 3, 1861, and is a daughter of Samuel J. and Mary J. (Eller) Crane. The father was a native of the state of New York, his birth having occurred on the 15th of October, 1833, and the mother was born in the vicinity of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, her natal day being May 27, 1833. The early years of their married life were passed in Clayton county, this state, where their six elder children were born. In 1866, they removed to Hamilton county, locating in Rose Grove township, and there for many years the father engaged in farming. Mrs. Crane relates many interesting experiences of the pioneer days, and recounts how, for two winters, they had to grind their corn in a coffee mill. The father is now deceased, having passed away in Webster county, this state, on the 27th of December, 1893, but he is survived by the mother, who makes her home with her children, residing in various parts of the country. To Mr. and Mrs. Crane were born three sons and seven daughters, as follows: Melissa, who was born October 14, 1855, the wife of John E. Parker, residing in the vicinity of Webster City; Lillie, whose birth occurred on the 27th of March, 1857, now Mrs. Lee A. Trudell, of Deering, North Dakota; Edmund J., who was born August 31, 1859, a resident of Lebanon, South Dakota; Mrs. Hurd; Alice, who was born October 27, 1863, now Mrs. James Beckner, of Spencer, Colorado; Sherman W., whose natal day was June 12, 1866, of Lebanon, South Dakota; Charles, who was born on the 22d of September, 1867, of Epswich, South Dakota; Rosamond, who was born Christmas day, 1869, and died in November, 1889; Millie May, who was born on April 3, 1871, the wife of Richard Goodrich, residing in the vicinity of Lehigh, Webster county, Iowa; and Louie, now Mrs. George E. Dingham, who was born on February 22, 1873, and resides at Lehigh. The four last named are natives of Hamilton county, and here they were reared and educated.

Mr. and Mrs. Hurd are the parents of six children, four sons and two daughters, all of whom are living. Lulu Belle, the eldest, who was born on the 7th of March, 1882, after graduating from the Wil-

liams high school continued her education in Ellsworth College, terminating her course there to become bookkeeper and assistant cashier in the First National Bank of Williams. She is now the wife of Robert P. Lynch, and is living on a farm in Rose Grove township, this county. Walter L., who was born on the 14th of December, 1884, after graduating from Grinnell College went west and in February, 1912, proved up on a claim in Montana and is now a resident of Columbus, that state. Ralph R., whose natal day was October 13, 1887, after graduating from the Williams high school attended Grinnell College for a year, and then matriculated in the engineering department of the Iowa State College at Ames, of which he is a graduate. He is now following his profession in Williams and is residing at home. Gladys L., who was born on the 20th of August, 1890, is the wife of Ivan L. Smith and lives in Williams. Stanton F., whose birth occurred on April 27, 1893, received his preliminary education in the schools of Williams, supplementing the course therein pursued by a term of study in a business college at Cedar Rapids. Howard H., the youngest member of the family, was born on the 22d of April, 1897, and is attending the public schools.

The family attend the religious services of the Methodist Episcopal church of Williams, of which Mrs. Hurd and her daughters are members. His political allegiance is accorded to the republican party, and while residing in Rose Grove township he served both as clerk and assessor, and he has been a trustee of Williams and a member of the town council for several years. Mr. Hurd is widely known in the county and held in high respect, as he is a man of good principles and incorruptible integrity, whose word is regarded as good as his bond. He manifests much sagacity and keen discernment in the direction of his business affairs and such success as has come to him is the highly merited reward of honest and intelligent effort.

SAM J. LARSON.

Among the sturdy Norsemen whose tireless energy and determination of purpose have largely contributed toward promoting the agricultural development of Hamilton county must be numbered Sam J. Larson, whose extensive acreage in Ellsworth township with its highly cultivated fields and modern improvements stands as a monument to a life of intelligent and persistently directed activity. His birth oc-

curred in Norway in 1849, his parents being John and Elizabeth Larson, both of whom are now deceased, the father having passed away in Scott township, and the mother at the home of our subject in Ellsworth township. They emigrated to the United States with their family in 1858, first settling in Kendall county, Illinois. At the end of a year they continued their journey westward to Iowa, crossing the prairies in an emigrant wagon, as there were no railroads in this section of the country at that time. They came direct to Hamilton county, settling on a tract of government land in Scott township, being among the very first settlers in this vicinity. Aside from a few log cabins scattered along the Skunk river, the country was practically uninhabited, their nearest trading post being Iowa City. They were practically without funds, but were rich in hope, energy and determination of purpose, believing implicitly in the possibilities of this wonderful land, where so many of their countrymen had fared well. From the youngest to the oldest they worked toward the achievement of a single purpose—the establishment of a home. Those first years were difficult indeed, but they were true pioneers and were absolutely undaunted by either hardship or failure. No obstacles served to discourage them, but on the contrary renewed their zeal and spurred them on to yet greater effort. Each year witnessed an improvement in their circumstances and the conditions amid which they lived, and in time theirs became one of the productive and valuable farms of the township. Mr. and Mrs. Larson had eight children, all of whom were born in Norway. In order of birth they are as follows: Mrs. Inger Charleson, deceased; Andrew J., who is residing on the old family homestead in Scott township; Lars, who is living in Story county, Iowa; Ole J., who passed away in Illinois in 1909; Mrs. Anne Hegland, deceased; Sam J., of this sketch; O. J., who is residing south of Jewell; and Mrs. Melinda Rendo, deceased.

Sam J. Larson was a child of only nine years when he emigrated to the United States with his parents, and a lad of ten when they settled in Hamilton county. A member of a family in limited circumstances his early advantages were meager, but he early had instilled in his youthful mind lessons on the value of thrift and diligence as factors in the achievement of success. His early training well qualified him for the battle of life, as he can scarcely remember when he did not have some regularly assigned task to perform, his duties being increased as his strength and sense of responsibility developed with the passing years. Naturally he developed early, and when still in his early youth was a useful member of society, while he was do-

ing a man's work long before he had attained his majority. Upon leaving the parental home to make his own way in the world, practically his entire capital consisted of a well developed body, tireless energy and the tenacity of purpose, which ultimately led him to the goal of his ambition. Today Mr. Larson is regarded as one of the most prosperous agriculturists and substantial citizens of his community, but without doubt he finds his greatest satisfaction in the fact that he is indebted to no one but himself for the success he has enjoyed. He holds title to six hundred and thirty acres of land in Hamilton county, and a quarter section in Minnesota. His home-stead is one of the best improved and most attractive properties in the township, evidencing by its general appearance and condition the competent supervision and intelligent direction of a capable agriculturist and intelligent man of business. Mr. Larson is thoroughly practical, is progressive and uses systematic methods, and as his circumstances have permitted has installed about his premises many modern conveniences. His equipment is most complete, comprising practically every implement or appliance known to the modern agriculturist. The buildings on his place are substantially constructed and in good condition, ample provision having been made for the housing of stock, machinery and grain. Mr. Larson has well provided for the comfort of his family, who live in an attractive residence with modern appointments. An automobile adds to their enjoyment and helps them to get about quickly, to reach the city, visit neighbors or provides a pleasant hour of riding in the country. He is one of the highly esteemed men of his community, where his upright methods and unquestionable integrity make his word as good as his bond.

Mr. Larson married Miss Carrie E. Svellin, a native of Illinois and a daughter of Thor and Carrie Svellin, natives of Norway. They were long residents of Hamilton county, where the father passed away but the mother is still living and now makes her home with a daughter in North Dakota. Four daughters were born to Mr. and Mrs. Svellin, as follows: Mrs. Melinda Scorpion, of North Dakota; Mrs. Larson; Mrs. Sarah Quom, of Clear Lake township; and Mrs. Celia Thomson, who is deceased. They are all natives of Illinois. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Larson numbers six: Mrs. Annie Jacobson, who is a resident of Minnesota; John and Thomas, who are living at home and assisting their father in the cultivation of the farm; Alfred, who lives with his sister on his father's farm in Minnesota; and Clarence and Richard, who are at home.

The family are Lutherans in religious faith and are members of the Norwegian church of that denomination in Randall. Mr. Larson is republican in his political views, giving his support to the progressive faction of that body. He has never figured prominently in the political life of the community, but he is anything but remiss in matters of citizenship, and can be depended upon to support any movement that he feels will promote the interest of the people or advance the general welfare of the township. Mr. Larson is thoroughly American in his ideas and sentiments and stanchly loyal to the institutions of this country, which he regards with a veneration oftentimes lacking in her native sons.

CAPTAIN JOSEPH R. C. HUNTER.

Captain Joseph R. C. Hunter was born in Carroll county, Ohio, March 30, 1844. He was a son of William A. and Nancy (Day) Hunter, whose family consisted of six sons and three daughters, namely: John D.; Samuel L.; Joseph R. C., of this review; William A., Jr.; S. C.; Charles E., who died in childhood; Almira; and two daughters who died in infancy.

On September 14, 1861, when seventeen years of age, J. R. C. Hunter enlisted in Company A, Twelfth Iowa Infantry, as eighth corporal, being enrolled at Eldora, Iowa. He at once entered upon a most active military career. He participated in the engagement at Fort Henry, Tennessee, February 6, 1862, and at Fort Donelson, Tennessee, February 13, 14, 15, 1862. At the battle of Shiloh, Tennessee, on the 6th of April, he was with the invalids under the command of Lieutenant D. B. Henderson, and he participated in the siege of Corinth, Mississippi, in May, 1862. He was promoted second lieutenant on the 1st of May, 1862, being at that time one of the youngest men in his company. He participated in the battle of Corinth on the 3d and 4th of October, and was wounded on the latter day. He was promoted first lieutenant on the 5th of April, 1863, and became captain of his company the following May, when not yet twenty years of age. He took part in the engagement at Raymond, Mississippi, May 12, 1863, and at Jackson, Mississippi, May 14, 1863. At Vicksburg, Mississippi, his command took part in both the assault and siege, which lasted from May 18 to July 4, 1863. He was present at the engagement at Jackson, Mississippi, July 10 to 16, 1863, at



CAPTAIN J. C. R. HUNTER

Brandon, Mississippi, July 19, 1863, and at Brownsville, Mississippi, October 16 and 17, 1863. In June, 1864, he was placed in command of a military post at the mouth of White river in Arkansas, having two companies of soldiers in his garrison. While stationed here he performed distinguished military service, of which the following is a brief account:

After the breaking up of the famous Banks expedition, a large force of Confederates passed north, their object being to take the state of Missouri. These troops passed near the White river post and a small detachment from them attacked some negro wood choppers, who were under the protection of the garrison, killing several of them. This attack and the presence of so many Confederates in the neighborhood was a warning, and Hunter took prompt measures for defense. All of his force and all of the negroes under his protection were immediately pressed into service and logs were cut and a heavy stockade erected. It was scarcely completed when, just at daybreak, on the morning of June 22, 1864, Hunter's garrison was attacked by a Confederate regiment from General Marmaduke's command. The attack was planned as a surprise. The Confederates advanced on two sides of the stockade, but Hunter's men, though called to arms so suddenly that they had no time to dress, met the enemy with such a destructive fire that they were forced to retreat. The Confederates re-formed and made another attempt, this time concentrating the attack on one side of the stockade. They were again repulsed with such heavy loss that they fled, leaving their dead and mortally wounded on the field. Captain Hunter lost five men. The Confederate's loss was equal to the entire force under Hunter's command. The Confederate wounded were taken care of by the Union soldiers. Some time later General Marmaduke was captured and placed in charge of the lieutenant colonel of Hunter's regiment, and from him was learned the true extent of the Confederate loss and also that the Confederates judged from the vigor of the defense that the stockade had been heavily reinforced. They had no idea that they were opposed by but two small companies commanded by a mere boy. Captain Hunter reported this engagement to General Buford, in command of the District of Helena, who at once came to his assistance with heavy reinforcements. When he left the post, Captain Hunter was placed in charge of three companies. After this incident Captain Hunter and his command joined an expedition to drive the Confederates out of Missouri. The march was one of most distressing hardship. At one time, one hundred and ten men in the Twelfth Regiment were

without shoes, and among the number was the captain of Company A. At another time they were seventeen days without government rations and were forced to live "on the country." Our subject was mustered out on the 1st of December, 1864, by reason of the expiration of his term of service, and at that time was senior captain of his regiment.

In 1869 Captain Hunter was married to Hannah Luella Phillips, of Mahaska county, Iowa, and to them were born four children: Mary, William Garl, Sadie Elmira and Josephine. Mary is now the wife of Charles Segar and resides in Cass township. William G. resides in Montana, while Sadie and Josephine reside with their parents in Webster City.

Captain Hunter came to Webster City in 1882 and engaged in farming in Cass township. In 1890 he was elected county recorder of Hamilton county and was reelected in 1892. At the close of his second term as recorder he retired from active business and is now living quietly and modestly at No. 917 Elm street, Webster City, Iowa. Politically Captain Hunter is a republican. Fraternally he affiliates with the Masons, Modern Woodmen of America and the Grand Army of the Republic.

HENRY F. REINHARDT.

Henry F. Reinhardt engages in general farming and stock-raising in Independence township, where he owns one hundred and sixty acres of highly improved and well cultivated land located on section 4. He is one of Hamilton county's enterprising native sons, his birth having occurred on the 24th of September, 1877. He is the third in order of birth of six children born to Fred and Theresa Reinhardt, who were born and reared in Germany. There they likewise passed the early period of their married life, emigrating to the United States in 1866. They first settled in Illinois, which remained their place of residence until 1874, when they came to Hamilton county. Here the father purchased a quarter section of partially improved land in Cass township, to the further improvement and cultivation of which he devoted his energies during the remainder of his active life, adding to his holdings as his means permitted. Both parents are now deceased, the father having passed away in 1901 and the mother in 1894, and are buried in Graceland cemetery at Webster City. At the time of

his death the father owned two hundred and seventy acres of land, aside from valuable town property in Webster City.

The boyhood and youth of Henry F. Reinhardt did not differ particularly from those of other lads who were reared in the rural sections of Iowa at that period. He was given the advantages of a common-school education, and while still in his early youth began assisting his father and brothers with the work about the home place. By the time he had attained maturity he was thoroughly familiar with the duties and work of an agriculturist and when he was twenty-two he left the parental roof and began farming for himself as a renter. In 1903 he returned to the old homestead—comprised of two hundred and seventy acres located on sections 35 and 36 of Cass and Independence townships—one-half of which belonged to him—and there continued his agricultural pursuits for seven years. At the expiration of that time he sold his interest in the property to his brother Frank, who still owns a portion of it, and purchased a quarter of section 4, Independence township. His entire tract is fenced hog tight and under cultivation, and his fields, which are tiled and in a high state of productiveness, annually produce abundant harvests, his principal crops being corn, oats and hay. He also owns one-half interest in eighty acres located in Boone township. In connection with general farming he raises shorthorn cattle, Poland China hogs and Percheron horses, being the owner of a valuable Percheron stallion, and he also buys and feeds cattle for the market. During the period of his ownership of his present place, Mr. Reinhardt has made various improvements, including the erection of three cattle sheds and a corn crib; he also remodeled his barn, its present dimensions being forty-eight by fifty feet.

On the 5th of October, 1898, Mr. Reinhardt was married to Miss Anna Jones, whose birth occurred on December 31, 1881. She is the fifth in order of birth in a family of seven and is a daughter of Christ and Caroline Jones. The parents were born, reared and married in Germany, whence they emigrated to the United States with their family in 1885, locating in Webster City. There the mother passed away in 1895, but the father is still living and continues to make his home in Webster City. Mr. and Mrs. Reinhardt have two daughters, Caroline and Bertha, both of whom are attending school.

William Reinhardt, a brother of our subject, met death suddenly on Independence Day, of 1912, when he with his brother-in-law were on their way to Webster City. While crossing Bank street he was shot by a stray bullet in the side and expired within thirty minutes.

He had made his home on an adjoining farm in Hamilton county and left behind him a daughter, Grace, who found a home in the household of Mr. and Mrs. Reinhardt, where she receives loving and tender care.

The parents are members of the German Lutheran church. His political allegiance Mr. Reinhardt gives to the democratic party and is now serving his third year as school director. His unabating energy, perseverance and intelligently directed activities have been duly rewarded and he is meeting with the prosperity he highly merits by reason of persistent effort.

BARNEY N. THOMPSON.

Barney N. Thompson, who owns and operates one hundred acres of fertile land on section 7, Cass township, was born in Norway on the 22d of April, 1865, and is a son of Torkel and Bertha Thompson, who passed their entire lives in the old country.

In 1887, at the age of twenty-two years, Barney N. Thompson emigrated to the United States, coming direct to Webster City. His first employment was with a construction crew on the Crooked Creek Railroad, but later he worked as a farm hand. In 1889, he wended his way westward to Colorado, where he filed on a homestead, which he cultivated for two years. At the expiration of that time he sold his claim and returned to Hamilton county, and worked as a farm hand. Having ultimately accumulated enough money to engage in farming for himself, he rented in 1893 a tract of land which he cultivated until 1904. In the latter year he bought forty acres in the southwestern part of the county, where he continued agricultural pursuits until 1910, when he purchased his present farm in Cass township. He has been residing on this place for two years and during that time has effected many improvements. His land is fenced with barbed wire and tiled, seventy-five acres of it being devoted to general farming. In connection with the cultivation of his fields, which annually yield abundant harvests, Mr. Thompson is engaged in stock-raising and is finding in both lines of business ample remuneration.

In 1906, Mr. Thompson was married to Miss Rebecca Larson, a daughter of Lars and Bertha Larson, and a native of Norway, her natal day being the 24th of January, 1881. Her parents emigrated to the United States in 1889, locating in Hamilton county, where they

still reside, the father owning and operating the farm adjoining that of our subject. Mrs. Thompson is the eldest of the seven children and the mother of four daughters, Ruth, Bertha, Bessie and Esther.

The family attend the United Brethren church and the political support of Mr. Thompson is accorded the republican party. He is a man of sterling worth and integrity, whose success must be attributed to thrift and unceasing diligence as he came to this country empty-handed and has through his own unaided effort attained the position he now holds.

EMIL H. SCHWEPPÉ.

Emil H. Schweppe is actively engaged in general farming and stock-raising in Independence township, where he owns eighty acres of highly cultivated land located on section 16. He is a native of Wisconsin, his birth having occurred in Dane county, October 10, 1852, and is a son of Herman and Mary (Stork) Schweppe. The parents were both natives of Germany, whence they emigrated to the United States in early life, subsequently locating in Wisconsin. There the father died in 1866, but the mother was living in Hamilton county at the time of her death, which occurred in 1876.

Emil H. Schweppe, who is the fifth child in order of birth in a family of seven, was reared on a farm and educated in the public schools of his native state. In common with all farmer lads he was early trained to the work of the fields and care of the crops and has devoted the greater part of his life to agricultural pursuits. In the fall of 1893, with his wife and family, he removed to Hamilton county, which has since been his place of residence. For two years thereafter he farmed as a renter, but at the expiration of that time he went to digging wells, devoting his energies to that occupation until 1897, when he bought his present farm, the further cultivation and improvement of which have since engaged his entire time and attention. During the period of his ownership Mr. Schweppe has wrought extensive improvements in his place, including the erection of a fine large barn, fifty by fifty-two feet, in 1902, and of an eight-room residence in 1909. His entire tract is fenced hog tight, while his fields are tiled and have been brought to a high state of productiveness. In connection with his general farming Mr. Schweppe breeds and raises

shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs and is meeting with fair success in his undertakings.

In Wisconsin, in 1875, Mr. Scheweppe was married to Miss Emma Kirchner, a daughter of Emil and Amelia Kirchner, natives of Germany, but long residents of Wisconsin, in which state they both passed away. Mrs. Scheweppe, whose birth occurred in New York state, May 27, 1856, is the second in order of birth in a family of four children, and is the mother of seven children, all but two of whom died in infancy. Louis C., the elder son of Mr. and Mrs. Scheweppe, is now an engineer. He married Grace Schopp of Spokane, Washington, and is there employed in the service of the city. The other son, Emil T., married Annie Dodge, of Kossuth county, this state, and they reside in Webster City, where he follows the carpenter's trade.

Mr. and Mrs. Scheweppe were reared in the faith of the German Lutheran church, and his political support he gives to the republican party. He is a man of upright principles and earnest purpose, who has led an active life, utilizing to the best of his advantage every opportunity that was presented to him.

JULIUS J. MILLER.

Diversified farming and stock-raising engage the energies of Julius J. Miller, who owns and operates a one hundred and twenty acre tract of land located on sections 6 and 16, Ellsworth township. He is a native of Hamilton county, his birth having occurred on the farm where he now resides, on the 22d of September, 1882, and a member of an honored pioneer family of Ellsworth township. His father, Andrew Miller, was born in Denmark on the 24th of May, 1843, and there passed the early years of his life. In 1869, he emigrated to the United States, coming direct to Hamilton county, and as the railroad had not then been extended beyond Nevada he was compelled to walk from that point to his destination. As he possessed an abundance of energy and was a strong, vigorous young man he readily found employment as a farm hand and for some years thereafter worked for C. P. Christianson. He continued to follow that occupation in Story and Hamilton counties for about seven years. At the expiration of that time he went back to Denmark on a visit and soon after his return, in 1877, he purchased forty acres of land in Ellsworth township and began farming for himself. He applied

himself to the development of his place with characteristic Danish energy, and met with well deserved success in his undertakings. As his circumstances permitted he extended the boundaries of his place until he acquired four hundred and eighty acres of choice land, on which he erected two sets of improvements. Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Miller had four children, our subject being the third in order of birth. The others are as follows: Mrs. Annie Knudson, who is a resident of Ellsworth township; Hans E., who was born on the 11th of January, 1880, and is residing on a portion of the old home farm in Ellsworth township; and Carl P., cashier of the Bank of Jewell. The father has now withdrawn from active life and he and the mother are residing in Randall, enjoying the comfort and ease made possible by reason of their long years of arduous toil and thrifty management.

Julius J. Miller has passed his entire life on the farm where he now resides, his early years being passed in very much the same manner as those of other lads who are reared in the country. He was given the advantages of a common-school education and while engaged in the mastery of the elementary branches of English learning began qualifying for his present vocation by assisting his father with the lighter duties about the farm. As his strength and sense of responsibility developed with the passing years his duties were increased, and by the time he had attained his maturity he was a skilled agriculturist. In addition to the one hundred and twenty acres comprised in his own holdings Mr. Miller leases an adjoining eighty acres which he also cultivates. His chief occupation is general farming but he engages in connection with this in the breeding and raising of high-grade stock, and is meeting with a good measure of success in both lines. He has also done some threshing and ditching, utilizing his time and opportunities to the best possible advantage in his efforts to forward his interests.

Ellsworth township was the scene of Mr. Miller's marriage in January, 1906, to Miss Anna Melinda Larson, who was likewise born and reared here, her natal day being the 28th of July, 1880. She is a daughter of Oliver J. and Martha (Anderson) Larson, natives of Norway. The father's parents located in Kendall county, Illinois, during the pioneer days, coming from there to Scott township, Hamilton county, in 1859, being among the very first settlers in this section of Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Larson are still living and now reside on one of the valuable farms of Ellsworth township. To them have been born five sons and five daughters, in the following order: John.

who is residing northeast of Jewell; Andrew, who is living in Ellsworth township; Mrs. Miller; Mrs. Martha Green, who is deceased; and Lewis, Henry, Elizabeth, Emil, Alydia and Olive, all of whom are at home. They were all born and reared on the home farm in Ellsworth township. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have had five children: Myrtle Amy, whose birth occurred on the 28th of October, 1906; Harvey Merle, whose natal day was the 6th of March, 1908; Lawrence Castner, who was born November 30, 1909; and on the 5th of February, 1912, twin daughters, one of whom died soon after birth. The other has been named Martha.

Mr. Miller is not affiliated with any religious organization but Mrs. Miller was confirmed in the Norwegian Lutheran church. His political support he accords to the republican party, but has never held any public office save that of school director. He is one of the successful agriculturists and respected citizens of Ellsworth township, where he is widely acquainted and has many friends.

ALBERT W. SWANSON.

A man who is well known in business circles of Webster City, Iowa, by reason of his success as contractor and builder in that city is Albert W. Swanson. He has been active in this line for many years and has built up an increasingly successful business in cement work, specializing in the building of bridges. His enterprise is conducted along progressive and modern lines of expansion and he is well known in Webster City as an individual force in its municipal progress. He was born in Sweden in 1866 and is a son of Sven Johan and Ellen (Parson) Swanson. The father lived and died in his native country but the mother has been a resident of Webster City since she left Sweden in 1888.

Albert W. Swanson has not had the advantage of an extended education. He went to school for a short time in Sweden but upon coming to America was prevented by the need of earning a livelihood from pursuing his studies to any great degree. He left his native country when he was seventeen years of age, in 1883, and established his residence immediately in Webster City. With his brother he opened a stone quarry near this city and was active in its operation for several years. By a natural business evolution he soon became interested in the stone mason line and achieved success in this line

in a short time. He gradually expanded his business and from a general activity in stone masonry has now become known as an expert in the building of cement bridges. Most of the rivers in Hamilton and Hardin counties are spanned by bridges which are the result of Mr. Swanson's activity and many of the ornamental bridges in the parks and public properties of those districts also owe their beauty to his artistic skill. His field of activity extends beyond Webster City into the state of Iowa and his name is well known in the middle west.

On March 3, 1892, Mr. Swanson was united in marriage to Miss Mary H. Greenwood, a daughter of William and Anna (Alton) Greenwood, of Hamilton county. The father pursued the occupation of agriculture for many years in this section and died in 1910. He had long survived his wife, whose death occurred in 1900. To Mr. and Mrs. Swanson have been born four children: Reckard Edgar, whose birth occurred February 11, 1893; Edna Louise, born April 28, 1899; William Dean, born December 17, 1904; and Margaret Gwendolyn, born January 15, 1911. The family is well known and widely popular in Webster City and their home is located at No. 119 Des Moines street.

Mr. Swanson is prominent in fraternal circles of the city, belonging to Bankers Union, No. 109, of the Fraternal Bankers Relief Society, and is a member of Flaws Castle, No. 330, of the Royal Highlanders. He also holds membership in the Fraternal Union of America. He has always devoted his attention aside from his affiliations with these brotherhoods to the expansion of his business and this has reacted in no small measure upon the general prosperity of his community.

GEORGE NOURSE WELCH.

George Nourse Welch, who owns and operates a farm of two hundred and forty acres located on section 13, Cass township, is a native of York county, Maine, his birth occurring on the 5th of December, 1854. His parents, Nehemiah and Margaret C. (Nourse) Welch, were likewise natives of New England and resided in Maine until January, 1868, when they came to Iowa. Here the father bought a quarter section of land, all but twenty acres of which was raw prairie, and diligently applied himself to its cultivation and improvement

until his death in 1876. He is buried in Graceland cemetery, Webster City. Mr. Welch was an alert and enterprising farmer. During the period of his residence on his farm he erected a comfortable house, barns and outbuildings and fenced his fields and put them under cultivation. In politics he was a democrat and served for several years as school director. The mother is still living at the venerable age of seventy-nine years and continues to reside on the old homestead.

The second in order of birth of the seven children born to his parents, George Nourse Welch was reared at home and received his education in the common schools of his native state and those of Iowa. In common with the majority of country youths he was early trained to the duties and responsibilities of the agriculturist, and has always followed this vocation. He remained at home until his marriage, and then removed to the place where he is now living. He has made all of the improvements on his farm, which is one of the attractive and valuable properties of the township. The greater part of his land is under cultivation and is devoted to diversified farming, his fields annually netting him large returns.

In 1891 Mr. Welch was married to Miss Iola May Welch, who was born in Maine on the 17th of April, 1871, and is the youngest of five children born to Barzillai and Dorcas Ann (Murray) Welch, who passed their entire lives in Maine. The family of Mr. and Mrs. George N. Welch numbers four: Florence, the wife of Fred Draeger, of Kamrar, this county, by whom she has had one daughter; and Pearl, Wallace and Helen Dorcas, all of whom are living at home.

The family affiliate with the Christian church and in his political views Mr. Welch is a democrat and has served for four years as assessor and at the present time is a member of the board of school directors. He has led a life of diligence and enterprise and is numbered among the representative farmers of his community.

ALEXANDER HAMILTON EVERMAN.

Alexander Hamilton Everman is one of the well known citizens of Williams, Hamilton county, Iowa. He owns and operates a highly developed farm of one hundred and forty-seven acres located on section 20, Williams township. He was born in Powell county, Kentucky, May 28, 1866, and is a son of Gibson and Mary (Bettershell) Everman, both of whom were natives of Kentucky, where they cele-

brated their marriage and continued to live during the remaining years of their lives. The father died March 1, 1903, at the age of eighty years, and the mother July 15, 1905, at the age of sixty-eight. They were the parents of eight children, as follows: Mrs. Sarah Post-Groves, who is a resident of Hancock county, Iowa; Mrs. Amanda Anderson, who makes her home in Kentucky; Mary Elizabeth, who passed away in Kentucky; Alexander H., of this review; Martha, who is deceased; Georgiana, who died in infancy; Joel, deceased; and Holt, living in Kentucky. All the above named were born in Kentucky.

Alexander Hamilton Everman was reared in his parents' home and received his early education in the public schools of the district in which he lived. In 1887 he removed to Champaign county, Illinois, and there engaged in farming. In 1901 he moved with his family to Williams township, this county, where he purchased a farm of one hundred and forty-seven acres on section 20 and has since continued to be successfully engaged in the cultivation of that land. His farm is one of the best equipped and most highly developed places of the township, and the residence in which the family lives is artistically furnished and contains a well selected library for the use and literary culture of the family.

Mr. Everman was united in marriage in Champaign county, Illinois, January 27, 1892, to Miss Alma E. Swartz, who was born in Putnam county, Indiana, February 22, 1862, and is a daughter of Michael and Elizabeth (Lane) Swartz, the former a native of Indiana, and the latter of Kentucky. The father resides at Olney, Illinois, and is now living retired at the age of seventy-eight years. The mother died at Olney, September 23, 1899, at the age of seventy-four years. They were the parents of six children, as follows: Sylvester A., who was born on the 3d of September, 1858, and is a resident of Illinois; Laura E., whose birth occurred on the 3d of September, 1860, and who resides in Carbondale, Illinois; Mrs. Alma E. Everman; William C., whose natal day was June 10, 1863, and who makes his home in Danville, Illinois; a son who was born in Illinois and died in infancy; and John Melvin, who was born in Champaign county, Illinois, on the 31st of July, 1869, and died at the age of fifteen months. The first four named are natives of Putnam county, Indiana.

To Mr. and Mrs. Everman four children have been born, namely: Frank M., born on the 30th of March, 1894; Joseph Oscar, February 5, 1897; Mary E., on the 22d of September, 1898; and Charles A., September 2, 1900. All are natives of Champaign county, Illinois.

They attend the public schools of Williams and assist their parents in the work of the home farm.

Mr. Everman belongs to the republican party and has his fraternal relation with Alamo Lodge, No. 576, F. & A. M., of Williams. His early religious training he received in the Methodist church and his wife was reared in the faith of the Disciples of Christ. Mr. Everman is one of the esteemed citizens of his township, and is a man always to be found on the progressive side of every public enterprise, seeking to improve the moral and intellectual advancement of the community in which he lives, and he is entitled to be numbered among the desirable and influential citizens of his county and state.

ISAAC W. AND WILLIAM J. MONROE.

The name of Monroe is so well known in agricultural circles of Boone township that the subjects of this review need no introduction to our readers. The name has stood for intelligent labor in the clearing, development and cultivation of the soil in a former generation and today is a synonym for all that is progressive and up-to-date in scientific farming. Its representatives in Boone township are William J. and Isaac W. Monroe, who are now associated in the development of two hundred acres of the most productive and fertile soil in the locality. Their holdings constitute the original farm of their father with one hundred and twenty additional acres which they acquired by purchase.

The Monroe family was founded in Iowa by Barnett Monroe, who came to Hamilton county in 1880. He was a native of New York state and was successful as a farmer in that section of the country for many years. He was influenced in his removal to Iowa by his brother-in-law, Tolman Wiltsey, who was an enthusiast in Iowa lands and wrote to Barnett Monroe graphic descriptions of the many opportunities which the country offered in agricultural development. The latter came to Hamilton county in 1880 accompanied by his wife, Mary E. (Wiltsey) Monroe, and his five children, Isaac W., Eliza N., John B., William J. and Sallie M. Here he purchased eighty acres on what is now section 13, Boone township, and farmed actively and successfully until 1890, when his health failed and he was obliged to give up his farm work. His sons, Isaac W. and William J., then operated the farm until the father's death February 26, 1901. His

wife had long since passed away, her death having occurred September 3, 1896. When Barnett Monroe bought his eighty acres very little of the land was even broken and the buildings thereon were of the poorest and most inconvenient kind, but he soon had his property under cultivation. Early in life Isaac W. and William J. assisted in the farm work. They aided in the construction of the buildings upon the property and became acquainted with all the practical details connected with the tilling of the soil and the care of stock and grain. When the father died in 1901 the farm reverted to these two sons, who have added to their holdings by the purchase of one hundred and twenty acres in Freedom township, and their property now aggregates two hundred acres of the finest farm land in Iowa under careful cultivation.

Isaac W. Monroe was united in marriage, July 8, 1890, to Miss Ida L. Harris, a daughter of Major Charles H. and Helen M. (Johnson) Harris, of Webster City. Her parents settled in Hamilton county in 1882 and her father is one of the patriotic and loyal citizens belonging to the fast diminishing ranks of the Grand Army of the Republic. He enlisted at the first call for troops in 1861, as a member of an Ohio regiment. His first term of service ended in three months, but he immediately reenlisted and served for three years. His military record is distinguished, and his advancement in the Federal army was rapid. He was changed to the Eleventh Kentucky Cavalry a short time after his reenlistment and when mustered out and honorably discharged held the rank of major. His father was a veteran of the Mexican war and his grandfather was prominent in the American service of the Revolution and the War of 1812. Major Harris is still living in Webster City at the age of seventy-eight years and is well known and highly esteemed.

William J. Monroe is also married. On March 4, 1898, he was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Eckstein, a daughter of John and Clarinda (Omstead) Eckstein, of Hamilton county. Mr. Eckstein has been an architect in this district since his arrival in Iowa in 1854. He was prominent in his profession and superintended the construction of the present courthouse of Webster City. His public spirit is evidenced by the fact that he gave his services in this capacity to the municipality without charge and he further contributed eighty acres of swamp land toward defraying the expense of construction. He died in 1892 at the age of sixty-eight years, and was survived by his wife until 1905, when her death occurred in the fifty-seventh year of her age. To William J. Monroe and wife have been

born six children: Arnold B., whose birth occurred May 22, 1899; John Harley, born September 4, 1901; Helen S., born on the 28th of February, 1905; Mary E., born May 28, 1907; and Myrtle and William Isaac, twins, who were born November 15, 1910, and have passed away, the former dying July 24, 1911, and the latter August 3, 1911.

The careers of William J. and Isaac W. Monroe have been inseparably connected almost since their birth. They spent their boyhood together, were educated in the same country school and aided their father in the cultivation of the soil. They are now associated in harmonious relations in extensive farming operations, the conduct of which is never hampered by strife or dissension. Both are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and are prominent members of the Odd Fellows lodge at Webster City, in which they have filled all of the offices. William is a charter member of that lodge and is now serving on the finance committee of the grand lodge of Iowa. They are members of the encampment and belong to the uniformed rank, and Isaac was a representative to the encampment at Dubuque in 1905, while William was a representative to the grand lodge in 1909 and 1910. They witnessed the raising of the flag over the Odd Fellows Orphan Home at Mason City, Iowa, William being lieutenant colonel of the canton at that time—1902. They and their familiars are also members of the Rebekah lodge at Webster City. They are charter members of the Yeomen lodge at the same place, being instrumental in its establishment, and both have held office in the same. The wife of William Monroe is also a member of the Yeomen, while he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America at Webster City. The brothers are both republicans in politics and William has taken a very active and prominent part in local affairs, being committeeman of the third ward for some years and also representing that ward in the city council for two years.

ERNEST D. BUSING.

Ernest D. Busing engages in general farming and stock-raising in Independence township, where he owns two hundred and forty acres of land, one hundred and sixty of which comprises the old family homestead, on which his birth occurred on the 16th of December, 1871. He is the third in order of birth of the five children, now liv-

ing, who were born to Harm and Anna (Weppel) Busing. The parents were born, reared and married in Germany, whence they emigrated to the United States about 1864, locating in Illinois, where they resided for seven years. In 1871, they came to Hamilton county, the father purchasing a quarter of section 16, Independence township, in the cultivation and improvement of which he engaged during the remainder of his life. There he passed away on October 15, 1910, at the age of seventy-three years, but the mother, who has passed the seventy-second anniversary of her birth, is still living and makes her home in Kamrar, this township.

Agricultural pursuits have always engaged the attention of Ernest D. Busing, who began assisting his father with the tilling of the fields and care of the crops in his early boyhood. His services were given to his parents until he attained his majority, after which his father hired him for two years at the usual wages paid for farm labor. At the expiration of that time he began farming for himself as a renter, continuing to lease land six years. During that period he acquired the necessary capital to buy eighty acres of section 17, on which he located in 1900, and has ever since made this his home. After the death of his father he bought the interest of the other heirs in the old homestead and is now engaged in the operation of both places. His land is fenced, one hundred and sixty acres of it hog tight, and his fields are tiled and under high cultivation, and annually yield abundant harvests. In connection with general farming, Mr. Busing raises shorthorn cattle, Shire horses and Duroc Jersey hogs, and is meeting with a good measure of success in his undertakings. All of the improvements on the old home place were made during the lifetime of his father, but Mr. Busing has enhanced the value of his own farm by the erection of new buildings and the addition of various conveniences.

In 1898 in this county was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Busing and Miss Margaret Gerber, a daughter of Charles and Mary (Hermann) Gerber, natives, respectively, of Germany and Illinois. They were married in the latter state and in 1878 removed to Iowa, locating on a farm in Hamilton county, in the cultivation of which the father engaged until his retirement. He is now sixty-one years of age and the mother fifty-four and they make their home in Webster City.

Fraternally Mr. Busing is a member of Elmo Lodge, No. 62, I. O. O. F., of Webster City, and he is also affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America. He votes the democratic ticket and has been

a member of the school board for the past six years while he served for one term as assessor. Mr. Busing is enterprising in his methods, practical in his ideas and persevering in his purpose, and in the development of his interests is meeting with the success he justly merits.

FRED A. WILDER.

Fred A. Wilder is successfully engaged in general agricultural pursuits and stock-raising on section 28, Cass township, where he owns ninety-two acres of land known as "Wild Rose Farm." He was born in Webster City on the 10th of September, 1873, and is a son of Edward C. and Jessie M. (Dyer) Wilder, the father a native of the state of New York and the mother of Pennsylvania. They came to Iowa in early life and were married in Webster City, where the father passed away in 1881, at the age of thirty-six years. Edward C. Wilder was residing in Illinois at the opening of the Civil war and in 1861 enlisted in Company A, Seventh Illinois Volunteer Cavalry, for eighteen months. At the expiration of his period of service he reenlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, remaining at the front until the close of hostilities. He participated in many of the notable battles, and was with Sherman when he made his famous march. He was buried in Graceland cemetery at Webster City with full military honors, the obsequies being conducted by the local post of the Grand Army of the Republic, of which he was a loyal member. The mother, who is now fifty-eight years of age, is making her home in Colton, California.

Fred A. Wilder, who was the second child born to his parents, was educated in the public schools of Webster City, terminating his student days upon his graduation from the high school, at the age of fifteen years. He subsequently learned telegraphy and was employed as telegraph operator and station agent by the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company at various points on their line for twelve years. At the expiration of that time he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits and settled on "Wild Rose Farm," which he had inherited. In 1908 Mr. Wilder had the misfortune to have his residence and all the contents destroyed by fire, after which he erected his present house at a cost of twenty-eight hundred dollars. He is a very practical man and uses good judgment and systematic methods in developing his undertakings. His land is tiled, and fenced with barbed wire, a large

portion of it hog tight, and seventy acres is under high cultivation. He keeps in close touch with the methods of the modern agriculturist and is meeting with success in his work. In connection with the cultivation of his fields he is raising stock, and is preparing to make a specialty of thoroughbred Holstein cattle. He is also raising White Rock chickens.

On the 3d of April, 1894, Mr. Wilder was married to Miss Hattie E. Peacock, a daughter of William and Ellen (Meeks) Peacock. The parents were natives of Iowa, the grandparents on both sides having been among the early pioneers of the state. Mrs. Wilder is the third in order of birth in a family of seven and was born on the 7th of July, 1879. Her mother died when she was a child of about four years and was buried in Graceland cemetery. The father, however, who died in 1908, was buried at Le Mars, Iowa, where he was residing at the time of his demise. Mr. and Mrs. Wilder have had six children, as follows: Sylvia and Raymond, who are attending high school; Ellen; Frieda; Justinia, who died at the age of eighteen months; and Grace.

The family attend the Christian church, in which the parents hold membership, and fraternally Mr. Wilder is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a republican in his political views and has served as school director for five years. He is one of the enterprising and progressive citizens of the community and is directing his business with the intelligence and foresight that invariably bring success, and is numbered among the township's representative agriculturists.

HERMAN FRANK BRIGGS.

Herman Frank Briggs is owner of one hundred and seventeen acres of land located on section 17 of Boone and 18 of Independence townships, where he engages in general farming. He is a native of Hamilton county, his birth having occurred on the 14th of April, 1862, and a son of Ulysses and Ellen (Brown) Briggs. The father, who was born in Derbyshire, England, was apprenticed to the potter's trade when a child of eight years. His services covered a period of eight years, during the first half of which he received twelve and a half cents a day, this amount subsequently being increased to twenty-four cents. Later he found employment in the mines, where he

worked until 1845. In December of that year he and his wife emigrated to the United States, locating in the vicinity of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, which continued to be their place of residence for eight years. They continued their journey westward to Iowa in 1853, locating on a farm in Jackson county which the father cultivated for a year. He next removed to Dubuque county, where he spent twelve months working in a gristmill, coming from there to Hamilton county in 1856 and settling on a farm in Cass township. Later he came to Independence township and purchased the farm now owned by our subject, where he and the mother passed the remainder of their lives. The entire tract was uncultivated when Mr. Briggs acquired it and a large portion of it was covered with timber. His entire holdings at the time of his death, which occurred on the 26th of August, 1890, comprised two hundred acres, eighty-five of which his son, Charles L. inherited. The land was all cleared and under cultivation and had been improved by the erection of substantial buildings, fences and the addition of various conveniences. The father was sixty-nine when he passed away, but the mother had attained the venerable age of eighty years at the time of her death on December 3, 1898. They are buried in the family lot in Graceland cemetery. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Briggs numbered eight, three of whom are deceased. Thirza, the eldest, was married on the 13th of November, 1898, to the Hon. Charles Aldrich, who passed away on the 8th of March, 1908, and is buried in Graceland cemetery. He was one of the foremost citizens in this section of the state and had achieved considerable local prominence, his services to the community being fully detailed in the historical portion of this work. Mrs. Aldrich is now residing with her brother, our subject. The second member of the family is Agnes, who became the wife of G. C. Olmstead. Her death occurred on October 17, 1911, and she is buried in Graceland cemetery. Stephen, the eldest son, died at the age of thirty-two years. Ella married J. W. Bates, who died about 1896, leaving her two children. She subsequently married again and is now residing in California. Charles L., who is a resident of Hamilton county, is married and has three children. Ulysses N., who is the next in order of birth, is married and makes his home in California. Marian, who is the youngest of the family, died on the 16th of April, 1889, at the age of twenty-three years.

Herman Frank Briggs, who is the seventh child and youngest son born to his parents, was reared at home and educated in the common schools. Practically his entire life has been passed on the farm

which he now owns and is cultivating with such excellent success. His land is all fenced, four acres of it hog tight, and has natural drainage. Forty acres of his farm is under high cultivation, and a large portion of the remainder is devoted to pasturage, as he makes a specialty of raising shorthorn cattle and Duroc Jersey hogs.

Fraternally Mr. Briggs is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, belonging to Elmo Lodge, No. 62, of Webster City. He votes the republican ticket. Having always resided in the immediate vicinity of his present home, Mr. Briggs enjoys a wide acquaintance in the community and has many stanch friends.

JOHN L. SCHWEPPÉ.

John L. Schweppe is residing on a farm of two hundred and forty acres located on section 21, Independence township, where he engages in general farming and stock-raising. He was born in Webster township on the 17th of May, 1872, and is a son of John H. and Martha E. (Brock) Schweppe, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Illinois. The father came to the United States when a lad of twelve years with his parents, who located in Wisconsin. In his early manhood he came to Iowa, where he was married and subsequently purchased forty acres of land on which had been built a log cabin and here he and his wife lived for a time and then purchased a farm in Webster township, Hamilton county. Mr. Schweppe energetically applied himself to the cultivation of his farm until 1875, when a mental affliction necessitated his transference to the state hospital at Cherokee, this state, of which institution he is still an inmate at the age of seventy-three years. He was a veteran of the Civil war and it has always been supposed that this experiences there were the direct cause of his condition. The mother, who is now entering upon the seventieth year of her life, was subsequently granted a divorce and remarried and is now residing in Webster City. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Schweppe numbered five, our subject being the second in order of birth.

The greater part of the life of John L. Schweppe has been passed in the immediate vicinity of his present residence, his education having been obtained in the common schools of Hamilton county. He remained with his mother until he was twenty years of age, and then started out to make his own way in the world. Having been

reared in the country he had been trained to the work around a farm, and for five years thereafter worked as a farm hand. At the expiration of that time he took up carpenter work, which he followed in connection with coal mining during the succeeding seventeen years, when he again resumed agricultural pursuits. In 1908 he located on the place where he now resides, which is the property of his uncle and here he has ever since engaged in general farming and stock-raising. The land is all fenced, ten acres of it hog tight, and one hundred and sixty of the two hundred and forty acres are under cultivation and about one-half of it is tiled. Mr. Schwegge is breeding Durham cattle, Shire horses and a high grade of Duroc Jersey hogs, and is meeting with a gratifying measure of success in this line of his business as well as in general farming.

On the 19th of November, 1898, Mr. Schwegge was married to Miss Mary Etta Stage, who was born on the 6th of March, 1882, and is a daughter of David and Ella (Williams) Stage. The father is a native of Ohio and the mother, who passed away in 1892, at the age of thirty-one years, was born and reared in Wisconsin, but they were married in Eldora, Iowa. Mr. Stage, who is now fifty-nine years of age, is residing in Hamilton county. Mrs. Schwegge is the third in order of birth in a family of seven. Mr. and Mrs. Schwegge adopted a child, by name Dewey Hanson, who is now twelve years of age.

The political allegiance of Mr. Schwegge is accorded to the republican party and he is president of the school board. He has never identified himself with any religious denomination but attends the United Brethren church, of which Mrs. Schwegge is a member. Fraternally he is affiliated with Elmo Lodge, No. 62, I. O. O. F. of Webster City, and he also belongs to Ridgely Encampment, No. 9, of that city.

CARL SPARBOE.

A fine farm of two hundred and forty acres located on section 16, Scott township, stands as a monument to the thrift and industry of Carl Sparboe, who is one of the progressive agriculturists and enterprising business men of that community. Although the greater part of his life has been passed in Hamilton county, Mr. Sparboe is a native of Norway, his birth occurring on the 9th of September, 1864.

He is a son of Anthony and Bergitte (Karoluson) Sparboe, who were born, reared and married in Norway. The father passed away in 1870, just three days prior to the birth of his youngest son, leaving his young wife with a family of four children, the eldest of whom was but seven years of age. The first three years of her widowhood the mother passed in the Norseland, but concluding that better opportunities would be afforded her sons in the new world, she resolved to establish a home for them in America. Therefore, in 1873, she took passage for the United States accompanied by her mother and small family. It was a tremendous undertaking, but she was a woman of dauntless courage and tireless energy and the love she bore her sons and her overwhelming desire to give them the best possible advantages strengthened her determination and gave her the fortitude necessary to carry out her plans. From the eastern port, where they landed, she made her way to Scott township and there established a home. She was not able to give her sons more than a common-school education, but they were early trained in habits of diligence and thrift, while in their youthful minds she instilled the fine moral precepts which enabled them to develop into men of excellent character. They were appreciative and have always tried to repay her for her many sacrifices for them, and in later years purchased and presented to her the farm on which she is now spending her remaining days. She is still living at the venerable age of eighty-three years and is highly respected in Scott township by reason of her many excellent qualities, not least of which is her noble motherhood. Her sons have all become honored citizens of the community and are in every way a credit to her and the county of which they have long been residents. Her first born, John H., is one of the successful agriculturists of Scott township and was formerly a member of the board of county supervisors. Hartvig M., the third member of the family, has also figured prominently in the public life of Hamilton county and is now serving his second term as mayor of Webster City. O. A. B. Sparboe, the youngest of her sons, founded the Story City Business College, which he conducted until forced to retire owing to the state of his health and went abroad, where he passed away in 1898.

Carl Sparboe was only nine years of age when he came to America with his mother, and has ever since been a resident of Scott township. He acquired an education in the district schools, but he early terminated his student days and assisted in supporting the mother and younger members of the family. His energies have always been

devoted to agricultural pursuits in which he has met with a good measure of success, being the owner of one of the best improved farms in the county. In connection with diversified farming he is extensively engaged in raising shorthorn cattle and a high grade of horses and hogs, thus substantially increasing his annual income. Mr. Sparboe takes great pride in his farm on which he has erected a fine residence, barns and other buildings and has installed about the premises many modern conveniences. He is very considerate of the comfort of his family and the home is liberally supplied with an abundance of good literature, musical instruments and everything else which will add to its attraction.

In this township on February 27, 1892, Mr. Sparboe was married to Miss Nellie Nelson, whose birth occurred in Grundy county, Illinois, on January 31, 1864. Her parents, Kanute and Ella (Tystal) Nelson, were born and reared in Norway, the father's natal year being 1832, and that of the mother 1829. They came to America in early life, locating in Grundy county, Illinois, in 1854, and there were born their five eldest children. After ten years residence there, they came to Iowa, settling in Scott township, where they both passed away, the mother's death occurring in 1895 and that of the father in 1898. To this couple were born ten children, in the following order: Betsy, who is a resident of Scott township; Mrs. Carrie Kassem, who is deceased; Mrs. Sarah Romsdahl, who makes her home in St. James, Minnesota; Mrs. Ella Weltha, of Ellsworth township; Mrs. Carl Sparboe; John, a resident of Scott township; Emma, now Mrs. Resting, of Ruthton, Minnesota; Ida, of Scott township; Mrs. Mary Hotchkiss, M. D., of Webster City, Iowa; and Nelson, of Scott township. The six last named are natives of Hamilton county, where the entire family was reared and educated. Mr. and Mrs. Sparboe have had seven children, but their first born, Bennett, is deceased. In order of birth the others are as follows: Elvira, whose birth occurred May 29, 1895; Carter, who was born October 6, 1896; Anton, whose natal day was June 21, 1900; Carl, whose birthday was January 14, 1902; William, who was born on the 6th of December, 1904; and Irvin, whose birth occurred April 15, 1906. The parents are giving their children good advantages, but they are being trained to become useful members of society, and each is assigned regular tasks about the home and farm, the girls thus becoming familiar with the duties of a housewife, while the boys are becoming proficient in the work of the fields and care of the stock.

The family hold membership in North St. Peter's Norwegian Lutheran church of Scott township and are regular attendants of the services. Mr. Sparboe is a democrat in his political views, but in local elections he often casts an independent ballot. He has always taken an active interest in the affairs of the township and for fifteen years held the office of justice of the peace while he has also served as school director. He belongs to the broad-minded, progressive type of citizen and despite the many exactions of his business manages to keep in touch with the vital issues of the day, and strives to keep his community abreast with the times by supporting every movement that will promote its development.

FRANKLIN J. DRAKE, M. D.

Dr. Franklin J. Drake, engaged in the practice of medicine according to the precepts of the homeopathic school, won his degree in 1895 and has since been an active representative of the profession in Webster City. He was born October 4, 1869, at Kingsville, in the province of Ontario, Canada, and is a son of Joseph H. and Sarah P. (Haynes) Drake. The mother died at the birth of her son Franklin, and two years later the father, who was a physician and surgeon, removed to Mount Vernon, Iowa, and practiced his profession there and in other places in this state to the time of his death, which occurred in 1906.

Dr. Drake, whose name introduces this review, was educated in the public schools and in the Iowa Wesleyan University at Mount Pleasant, gaining a liberal education to serve as the foundation upon which to build his professional learning. His medical course was pursued in the Chicago Homeopathic Medical College, from which he was graduated in 1895 with the degree of M. D. Immediately afterward he located in Webster City, where he has since remained. A liberal practice is accorded him and gives evidence of the confidence reposed in his skill and ability. He is very careful in the diagnosis of his cases and keeps in touch with the most scientific methods of the present day.

On the 2d of May, 1895, Dr. Drake was united in marriage to Miss Eda E. Smith, a daughter of the Rev. Samuel C. Smith, a Methodist minister of Mount Pleasant, Iowa. They were separated by death, however, on the 8th of September, 1896, when Mrs. Drake

passed away. On the 2d of November, 1898, Dr. Drake was again married, his second union being with Miss Emma Handel, of Webster City. They reside at No. 613 First street and theirs is a hospitable home, always open for the reception of their many friends. Dr. Drake is a member of the Universalist church, active and prominent in its work, and is now president of the Iowa State Universalist Convention. He has attained high rank in Masonry and is a worthy exemplar of the craft. He belongs to Acacia Lodge, No. 176, F. & A. M., and to Des Moines Consistory, No. 3, S. P. R. S. He has likewise crossed the sands of the desert with the nobles of Za-Ga-Zig Temple of the Mystic Shrine at Des Moines. He is a member of Elmo Lodge, No. 62, I. O. O. F., of Webster City, and of Webster City Camp, No. 416, M. W. A., and he likewise belongs to the Country Club. He has a very wide acquaintance in the county seat and throughout the surrounding districts and is held in high regard, both socially and professionally. He is a dependable man under all circumstances and his quietude of deportment, his easy dignity, his frankness and cordiality of address, with the total absence of anything sinister or anything to conceal, foretoken a man who is ready to meet any emergency or any obligation of life with the confidence and courage that come of conscious personal ability, right conception of things and an habitual regard for what is best in the exercise of human activities.

GEORGE W. COOPER.

George W. Cooper, the present mayor of Blairsburg, where he also engages in the real-estate business, was born in Stark county, Illinois, on the 9th of August, 1856. He is a son of John and Mary (Hazelbaker) Cooper, natives of Pennsylvania, both of whom are deceased, the father having passed away in 1870 and the mother in 1907. The early years of their married life were passed in the Keystone state, whence they subsequently removed to Illinois. They were the parents of seven children: William Valentine, born August 1, 1821, who served in the Civil war as member of Company C, Eighty-sixth Regiment, Illinois Volunteers, and died in Nashville, Tennessee, January 13, 1863; Mrs. Margaret Griffith and James Fenimore, both deceased; Cassius C., who passed away in June, 1911; Apollos, a resident of St. Joseph, Missouri; George W., of this review; and



MR. AND MRS. G. W. COOPER

Mrs. Eva Kinney, who makes her home in Seattle, Washington. The five eldest members of the family were born in Pennsylvania but the two last named are natives of Illinois.

The boyhood and youth of George W. Cooper were passed on the old homestead in Illinois, his education being obtained in the common schools. As his parents were among the pioneer settlers of Stark county he well remembers when the country surrounding their home was nothing but unbroken prairie. At the age of twenty-two years he left the parental roof and started out to make his own way in the world, first locating in Nodaway, Missouri, which was his place of residence until 1893. In the spring of 1893 he removed to Furnas county, Nebraska, coming from there to Hamilton county. He devoted his time to agricultural pursuits until 1897, when he moved to Blairsburg and engaged in shipping stock until 1903. He then went into the real-estate business, continuing therein until the spring of 1907, when he removed to Ames, Iowa, where he resided for four years. In 1911 he once more became a resident of Hamilton county, locating in Blairsburg, which has since been his home. Mr. Cooper engages in the real-estate business, dealing in property in Blairsburg and the vicinity and is meeting with success. He owns his residence and is numbered among the town's substantial citizens.

In August, 1877, Mr. Cooper married Miss Carmelia Phillips, who was born in Marshall county, Illinois, in 1858, and is a daughter of John and Evaline (Sickles) Phillips, the former a native of New Jersey and the latter of Illinois. In his early manhood Mr. Phillips removed to Illinois and there he passed away in 1909. He is survived by the mother, who resides at Speer, Stark county, that state. Their family numbered four: Hamilton, who is a resident of Speer, Illinois; Mrs. Della Saggers, who lives in Chicago; Mrs. Ollie Nickerson, who lives at Lawn Ridge, Marshall county, Illinois; and Mrs. Cooper. Mr. and Mrs. Cooper have two sons: Clifford W., who was born in Nodaway county, Missouri, September 21, 1885, and who after completing a common-school course studied electrical engineering at the Iowa State College at Ames, of which institution he is a graduate, and is now employed in the switching station of the Public Service Company at Evanston, Illinois; and Edison W., who was born October 14, 1887, and terminated his student days upon the completion of the grammar grades and is now engaged in the restaurant business in Blairsburg.

In political matters Mr. Cooper is a republican. He has served both in the council and on the board of education of Blairsburg, and

in March, 1912, was elected mayor, the duties of which office he discharges most creditably. The family attend the Congregational church of which Mrs. Cooper is a member, and figure prominently in the social life of the community.

CHARLES ADELBERT HOWD.

For more than forty years Charles Adelbert Howd has been identified with the progress and development of Cass township, where he lives on a farm of two hundred and eighty acres located on section 19 and engages in general agricultural pursuits and stock-raising. He is a native of Madison county, New York, his birth having occurred on the 7th of January, 1846, and a son of Eli S. and Phoebe A. (Kenyon) Howd, who passed their entire lives in the Empire state. They were the parents of five children, our subject being the eldest of the family.

Charles Adelbert Howd was reared on a farm and educated in the common schools. He remained at home until he was twenty-six years of age and then came to Iowa, locating on the place where he now lives. The entire farm is fenced with barbed wire, twenty acres of it hog tight. Wherever needed the land is tiled, and one hundred and twenty acres of it is in a high state of productivity and is largely planted to such cereals as can be used in the feeding of stock. Mr. Howd has always made a specialty of stock-raising and he also buys and feeds cattle for the market.

On the 1st of November, 1871, Mr. Howd was married to Miss Sarah Ann Sears, who was born in Madison county, New York, on the 12th of May, 1847, and is a daughter of Louis and Mary (Severance) Sears. The parents, who were also natives of the Empire state, came to Iowa in early life and located on the farm Mr. Howd is now cultivating, continuing to reside here until their death. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Howd, as follows: Mary Phoebe, who married G. D. Thompson, an attorney at Webster City, and is the mother of four children; Hattie, the wife of F. H. Abbey of Iowa Falls, by whom she has had two children; Eli L., a resident of Fremont township, who is married and has two children; Arthur S., who is married and living in Independence township, this county; F. S., a resident of Hancock county, who is also married; and Otto O., who is a civil engineer in Webster City.

Mr. Howd is a member of the Iowa Legion of Honor, and gives his political support to the republican party. He has served the township at various times in the capacity of assessor, trustee and clerk, and in 1874 he was elected county superintendent of schools, which office he held for five years, while he has been secretary of the school board for twenty-eight years. He is one of the highly esteemed citizens of Cass township, where his enterprise and progress have been dominant factors in promoting the community welfare and the development of various public utilities.

HENRY T. YUNGCLAS.

Henry T. Yungclas is a farmer on section 32, Fremont township, Hamilton county, Iowa, where he is cultivating four hundred and fifty acres of land and is bringing it constantly to a higher degree of improvement. He was born in Connecticut in 1862, and is a son of John H. and Katherine (Kober) Yungclas. His father was born in Hesse, Germany, in 1835 and came to the United States by sailing vessel in 1854. The journey across the Atlantic took forty-seven days. Upon its completion John H. Yungclas settled in Connecticut where he married, and removed to Tama county, Iowa, on November 1, 1862. He remained in that vicinity and cultivated the soil successfully until 1868, when he removed to Hamilton county. Here he bought two hundred and forty acres of land in Fremont township and spent his active life in its cultivation. Gradually adding to his holdings he now owns six hundred and thirty acres as a result of extensive investments and was one of the representative and progressive agriculturists in the state of Iowa. He has now retired and is living with his wife in Webster City.

Henry T. Yungclas received his education in the common schools of Tama and Hamilton counties and pursued the usual course of study until he laid aside his books. In 1883 he rented land from his father and started an independent agricultural enterprise. He was a practical farmer and had gained a knowledge of the details of his occupation in the efficient school of experience. He was successful upon his rented land and was enabled in 1887 to purchase a farm of his own. He bought one hundred and sixty acres on section 32, Fremont township, paying for his land ten dollars per acre. He has subsequently made substantial increases in his holdings by purchas-

ing adjoining farms and his property now aggregates four hundred and fifty acres of the most fertile land in Hamilton county. He is responsible entirely for all the improvements upon his holdings. In 1904 he built his present barn, one hundred and twenty-eight feet long by thirty-six feet wide. The posts which he constructed twenty feet high gave him ample space for one hundred tons of hay and capacity for sixty-five head of stock. The barn is equipped with all the most modern farm machinery. There is a twelve-horse-power gasoline engine which puts the hay into the barn automatically and no new development in mechanical farm implements escapes Mr. Yungclas' attention. His farm is a model enterprise in every respect. His harvests increase in quality and abundance every year in proportion to more intense and scientific cultivation. His stock is thoroughbred and is an important source of Mr. Yungclas' prosperity. He keeps a large herd of graded horses, cattle and hogs and gives careful supervision to this branch of his enterprise.

In 1886 Mr. Yungclas was united in marriage to Miss Emma Stahl, of Geneseo, Illinois, who died in 1888, leaving one daughter, Florence. In 1890, Mr. Yungclas was again married. His second union was with Miss Anna Argubright, a daughter of J. W. Argubright, one of the early pioneer settlers of Cass township, Hamilton county. His period of residence in that section dates from 1869 and he is one of the representative citizens at the present day. To Mr. Yungclas' second union have been born three children, James, William, and Claire, who all reside with their parents on the home farm. Science and a progressive spirit are the basis of prosperity in any active line and to these qualities Mr. Yungclas owes his success. His advancement in agriculture has been along lines of development and his present farm is the natural culmination of well directed labor in fields of economic agriculture.

THOMAS ARTHUR LISTER.

Thomas Arthur Lister, who was one of Williams' first settlers, having located here in 1869, was born in Fifeshire, Scotland, on the 30th of January, 1852, and is a son of Thomas Arthur and Helen (Stevenson) Lister, who were born, reared and married in Fifeshire. They emigrated to America with their family when our subject was a babe of three months, locating in Dunleeth, East Dubuque, Illinois.

This continued to be their place of residence for some years, during which time the father, who was a stone cutter and mason, was employed in building the wharves then in course of construction along the Mississippi. They subsequently removed to Farley, Dubuque county, going from there to Anamosa, this state, where for some time Mr. Lister was engaged in quarrying and cutting the stone for the state penitentiary at that point. He was a very efficient and capable workman, excelling as a stone cutter, and he and his son David were awarded the contract for cutting the stone for the foundation of the courthouse at Webster City, and they were employed in a similar capacity on the capitol at Des Moines. The latter years of both parents were passed in this county, the father's death occurring in Rose Grove township, while the mother died in Williams on the 7th of September, 1896, at the age of seventy-one years, her natal day having been the 12th of December, 1824. Nine children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Lister, as follows: James, who is deceased; Jane, the wife of D. O'Neill, of Barnum, Minnesota; David, who is deceased; Thomas Arthur, our subject; Mary, now Mrs. J. N. Hough-talling, of Webster City; Ellen, who was born on the 12th of November, 1857, the wife of A. J. Simpson, of Williams, Iowa; Margaret, the deceased wife of J. P. Tuttle; John, who resides in the vicinity of Iowa Falls; and George, who is also deceased. The four first named were born in Scotland, but the others are natives of this country.

Thomas Arthur Lister was reared and educated in Illinois and Iowa, the greater part of his life having been spent in Hamilton county. He was only a youth of seventeen years when he first became a resident of Williams, which at that time was just a railway station. For two years he made his home at Iowa Falls, being then engaged in the construction of the railroad between that point and Fort Dodge.

On the 26th of August, 1880, Mr. Lister was married to Miss Ella J. Copper, whose birth occurred at Mendota, Illinois, on August 9, 1855. She is a daughter of A. B. and Rachel (Meeker) Copper, the father born in the province of Lorraine, France, his natal day being the 20th of May, 1829, and the mother born in Homer, Illinois, on the 24th of November, 1835. Mrs. Lister accompanied her parents on their removal to Alden, Hardin county, this state, in 1865, and completed her education in the public schools of that place. There the mother passed away on October 31, 1869, but the father was living in Williams at the time of his death. Six children were born

to Mr. and Mrs. Coppher, Mrs. Lister being the eldest. In order of birth the others are as follows: La Fayette, who was born on the 13th of February, 1857, and died six days later; Charlie, who was born July 15, 1860, and died September 15, 1881; Elizabeth, who was born on July 6, 1862, now Mrs. W. H. Milnes, of Clarion, this state; Belle, who was born November 13, 1867, the wife of R. B. Johnson, of Des Moines; Iowa; and Albert, who was born on the 30th of September, 1869, and died on November 14, 1869. The four eldest were born in Illinois, and the remaining ones in Alden. The father, who was a carpenter by trade, erected many of the early residences and buildings in this section of the state.

To Mr. and Mrs. Lister were born two sons. The elder, Charles William, was born on July 12, 1881, and died in Williams township on April 8, 1910. He was married on the 22d of August, 1906, to Miss Minnie Bratnober, who was born in Canada on the 12th of February, 1883, and to them was born one daughter, Ruth Ella Marie, whose natal day was May 21, 1907. Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Minnie Lister and her daughter have resided with our subject and wife. A second son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Lister on September 23, 1884, but he died at the age of nine days.

The family affiliates with the Presbyterian church of Williams, and fraternally Mr. Lister belongs to Jungle Camp, No. 1844, M. W. A. He accords political support to the democratic party and has served as constable of Williams for the past ten years. He owns his residence and has always taken an active and helpful interest in forwarding the progress and development of the town, among whose citizens he numbers many friends. Both Mr. and Mrs. Lister are well read and own a carefully selected collection of books, one of their most highly prized volumes being a Bible that has been in the possession of Mrs. Lister's family for three generations.

ENOS GEORGE HOWES.

Enos George Howes, the owner of a highly cultivated and valuable farm of two hundred and one acres in Williams township, has been identified with the agricultural development of Hamilton county for thirty-nine years. He was born in Ashfield, Massachusetts, on October 9, 1844, and is a son of Enos and Bathsheba (Vincent) Howes, both of whom were born in Ashfield in 1800, the father's

natal day being July 19 and the mother's being March 30. They passed their entire lives in Massachusetts and attained a ripe old age, the father's death occurring September 23, 1880, and that of the mother on the 16th of March, 1891. The Howes family is descended from the old English house of De Huse, the form of spelling used in 1066, which was changed from time to time until, in 1457, it appears in the record as Howys and subsequently took its present form. Our subject possesses a genealogical record from 1637, which is two years prior to the settlement at Yarmouth, now Dennis, Massachusetts, of Thomas and Mary (Burr) Howes, who became members of that colony in March, 1639. There Thomas Howes passed away in 1665, at the age of seventy-five years. Mr. Howes is very proud of his descent from this worthy couple, who were among the first settlers of the Massachusetts colony, and furnished many worthy citizens to the commonwealth. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Enos Howes numbered six, of whom our subject is the youngest. In order of birth the others are as follows: Mary, subsequently Mrs. Elisha Wing, who was born November 8, 1828, and died on the 2d of November, 1897; Olive, the wife of Cyrus Allan Hall, who was born February 28, 1830, and died August 12, 1911; Francis S., born on the 30th of May, 1832, died December 10, 1904; Rachel T., whose natal day was August 24, 1837, the wife of Charles L. Hubbard, of Wilbraham, Massachusetts; and Elisha B., a veteran of the Civil war, who was born on the 23d of July, 1839, and died August 27, 1909.

The boyhood and youth of Enos George Howes were passed in his native town, his education being obtained in the public schools and Sanderson Academy. Having been reared on a farm, he was early trained to the work and duties of the agriculturist, which vocation together with that of lumbering he followed until he came to Illinois in 1867. For six years thereafter he resided in Bureau county, that state, devoting his entire time and attention to farming. At the expiration of that time, in 1873, he removed to Hamilton county, and located on a farm one-half mile east of Williams, which at that time contained but seven houses. He diligently cultivated this place for four years and then removed to a farm two and one-half miles from the village, where he remained until he settled on his present place in 1880. Here he has ever since engaged in general farming and stock-raising, meeting with more than average success in his undertakings, and is numbered among the substantial and capable agriculturists of the community.

At Mendota, Illinois, occurred Mr. Howes' marriage, on February 12, 1869, to Miss Delia Rose Hill, who, like Mr. Howes, was born in Ashfield, Massachusetts, her birth occurring on the 18th of December, 1843, the union being broken by her death on August 16, 1912. She was educated in the common schools and was a daughter of Austin and Lydia (Shaw) Hill, both descended from old Bay state families. The father was born in Ashfield on November 3, 1802, and the mother in Plainfield, on the 25th of October, 1804. They long outlived the Psalmist's allotted span, Mr. Hill's death occurring on June 24, 1887, and that of the mother three days later. Mrs. Howes was the youngest of the four children born to her parents, the others being as follows: Clarissa, who was born on August 22, 1833, the wife of Charles Barrus and a resident of Goshen, Massachusetts; Mary Augusta, whose birth occurred on the 24th of October, 1835, the wife of David Thayer, of Plainfield, Massachusetts; and Leander V., a Civil war veteran, who was born on March 4, 1839, and died in October, 1909. Both Mr. and Mrs. Howes were descendants of Revolutionary soldiers, the maternal grandfathers of each having been veterans of that war.

To Mr. and Mrs. Howes was born one son, Archie Ernest, whose birth occurred at Lamoille, Bureau county, Illinois, on the 31st of December, 1870. He was reared in Hamilton county and obtained his education in the Williams public schools and the high school of Iowa Falls, having graduated from the latter institution with the class of 1893. He has ever since been associated with his father in the cultivation of the farm and continues to reside on the old homestead. On the 1st of September, 1909, at Iowa Falls, Iowa, he was married to Miss Ina Faith Caruth, who was born at Mendota, La Salle county, Illinois, on March 14, 1889, and they have become the parents of a daughter, Edith Rosetta, whose natal day was the 23d of July, 1910.

Both father and son vote the republican ticket and take an active interest in local politics. The former served for four years as constable, having been the incumbent of this office when the township was yet known as Blairsburg and having continued in the same capacity after the name was changed to Williams. He also served as township trustee and as a member of the school board for four years, while he discharged the duties of justice of the peace for eight. The son, A. E. Howes, was assessor for six years, while he served as trustee and also a member of the school board for two years. He and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church at Williams as

was also the mother and both father and son belong to the Iowa Legion of Honor. Mr. E. G. Howes is one of the widely known citizens of Williams township, where both he and his son are held in high regard, being known as men of honor and integrity, whose business transactions are above question.

J. A. NELSON.

J. A. Nelson, who has been conducting a piano and music store in Ellsworth since 1910, is one of the capable and highly regarded younger men of the commercial circles of the town. He is a native of La Salle county, Illinois, his birth having occurred on April 5, 1879, and a son of Nels G. and Emma (Jacobs) Nelson. The father was born in Norway, but when a child of five years he came to America with his parents, who located on a farm in Wisconsin. There he was reared to manhood and educated and when old enough to become self-supporting, left home and went out to work by the month as a farm hand. He subsequently went to Illinois and engaged in farming for himself. In 1855 he came to Iowa but shortly afterward returned to Illinois, where he remained until 1880, when he came to Hamilton county, locating on a farm which he had previously purchased. He is thrifty and energetic and so intelligently directed his undertakings that he has met with more than average success. As his circumstances warranted he extended the boundaries of his farm until it comprised two hundred and eighty acres. He also has extensive realty interests in Minnesota and South Dakota, and is numbered among the substantial citizens of Hamilton county. The mother, who was also a native of Norway, passed away in 1896.

J. A. Nelson was still in his infancy when his parents located in Iowa, where he has ever since made his home. He was reared on the farm and began his education in the district school, continuing it in the college at Jewell, this state, being graduated from that institution with the class of 1897. For two years thereafter he engaged in teaching, but at the expiration of that time he resolved to identify himself with commercial activities, so he came to Ellsworth and became associated in the general mercantile business with Mr. Eittreim under the firm name of Nelson-Eittreim Company. They carried a large and varied stock, which they offered at reasonable prices, and as they were gracious and accommodating to those who accorded them their patronage.

succeeded in building up a good trade. Mr. Nelson sold his interest in the enterprise to Henry L. Hanson in 1910, and opened a piano and music store.

On the 14th of June, 1905, Mr. Nelson was married to Miss Helen E. Hanson, a daughter of Alex and Carrie (Johnson) Hanson, natives of Norway. They were among the early settlers of Hamilton county, where for many years the father engaged in farming, but he is now living retired in Ellsworth. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson have one child, Vernon C., who is five years of age. They have a very pleasant residence, which has only recently been completed and is thoroughly modern.

In matters of religious faith, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are Lutherans, and fraternally he is identified with the Masonic order, belonging to the lodge at Jewell, and he also holds membership in the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of Webster City. He votes the republican ticket, and has for some time served on the county central committee, while for two years he was clerk of the town council. Mr. Nelson is a man of laudable ambition, progressive spirit and enterprising methods. His undertakings are directed with intelligence and foresight and he is meeting with success in the development of his interests.

OSCAR F. DONALDSON.

Oscar F. Donaldson has for the past eight years been successfully engaged in the real-estate and insurance business at Webster City, his office being at No. 501½ Second street. He has also devoted considerable attention to literary work and in this connection has won favorable recognition. His birth occurred at Iowa City, Iowa, in 1872, his parents being Oscar C. and Mary (Sinnett) Donaldson. The father, who was born near Baltimore, Maryland, in 1830, came to Fort Dodge, Iowa, in 1858 and preempted four hundred acres of land on section 22, Independence township, Hamilton county. Subsequently he took up his abode in Iowa City, there residing until 1878, when he came to Webster City. Here he opened a store for the sale of boots and shoes exclusively, this being the first establishment of its kind in the city. He successfully conducted the same throughout the remainder of his life, passing away on the 3d of April, 1892, when sixty-

two years of age. His wife was called to her final rest in 1902, being at that time also sixty-two years of age.

Oscar F. Donaldson acquired his education in the graded and high schools of Webster City, the year of his graduation being 1892. He then pursued a commercial course in the Ottawa Business College at Ottawa, Illinois, and after his father's death managed the latter's estate. From 1895 until 1904 he likewise acted as office manager for the Litchfield Manufacturing Company of Webster City, resigning that position when the concern moved to another town. During this period he spent a year in travel throughout the west by wagon and team in order to regain his health and strength. Since 1904 he has devoted his time and energies to the real-estate and insurance business and has enjoyed a gratifying clientele. In 1905 he began the publication of *The Christian Socialist*, which is now being published in Chicago and has a circulation of about fifty thousand copies per issue. He is still interested financially in this publication and also contributes articles on socialism and kindred subjects. He is likewise the author of a book entitled "Workingman's View of the Bible" and is well known as a forceful and virile writer.

In 1899 Mr. Donaldson was united in marriage to Miss Ella C. Cameron, her father being John C. Cameron, now of Hamilton county and formerly of Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Donaldson have four children, namely: Ralph F., Ruth Mary, Frances and Helen. The family residence is at No. 1204 Superior street in Webster City.

For five years Mr. Donaldson served as councilman of the second ward in Webster City. He is a worthy exemplar of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Acacia Lodge, No. 176, F. & A. M., and he is also a valued member of the Congregational church. In all life's relations he has been true to his obligations and duties and is greatly esteemed in Webster City, where he has lived from early boyhood.

THOMAS FRANKLIN.

Thomas Franklin is engaged in the contracting and building business in Williams, where he is meeting with very good success. He was born in Dixon, Lee county, Illinois, on the 23d of October, 1876, and is a son of John and Bridget Franklin. The parents are natives of Ireland, whence they emigrated to the United States in early life, and for some years resided in Dixon, Lee county, Illinois, where all of

their children were born with the exception of the youngest daughter. They came to Iowa in 1878, and located on a farm in the vicinity of Williams, in the cultivation of which the father engaged during the remainder of his active life. He subsequently removed to Williams, where he is now living retired at the age of seventy-six years, while the mother is seventy-five. Their family numbers six, and all are residents of Williams with the exception of the youngest. In order of birth they are as follows: Margaret, who was born on the 9th of June, 1866, the wife of George D. Doyle, who is mentioned at greater length elsewhere in this work; William, whose natal day was the 22d of February, 1868; Mrs. Mary Doyle, who was born in October, 1870; John, whose birth occurred on the 2d of June, 1872; Thomas, our subject; and Nellie, whose birth occurred on the 2d of June, 1879, in Hamilton county, now a resident of Sioux City, Iowa.

Thomas Franklin was a child of only two years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Hamilton county. Here he was reared to manhood on his father's farm, obtaining his education in the common schools. He was early trained to agricultural pursuits, but later turned his attention to other activities and subsequently learned the carpenter's trade. He is now engaging in contracting and building, and as he is efficient and reliable is meeting with very good success in his undertakings.

Mr. Franklin resides with his parents. He is a communicant of the Roman Catholic church, and his political support he accords to the democratic party. He is widely known in this vicinity, where he has passed the greater part of his life and has many friends, the majority of whom are comrades of his boyhood days.

FRANCIS EDMUND WHITLEY.

In a profession in which success depends entirely upon individual merit and in which failure has such dire results Dr. Francis E. Whitley has attained in more than twenty-five years of earnest and able work a place of prominence and importance. For over a quarter of a century he has been located in Webster City and is recognized as one of the most deservedly successful physicians and surgeons in the community. He was born in Chautauqua county, New York, February 23, 1857, a son of J. and Sarah Whitley, who came from England nearly seventy years ago and settled in that section of the Empire state.

Dr. Whitley received his primary education in the Jamestown (New York) Collegiate Institute, from which he was graduated in 1875, and then supplemented this by a two years' course in the Cedar Valley Seminary. Determining to study medicine, he set about the acquirement of the first and most important requisite for success, a thorough special education. Entering Rush Medical College of Chicago, he received his degree of M. D. from that institution in 1881 and immediately afterward enrolled in the Chicago Polyclinic. Besides this he did other important post-graduate work and when he finally began practicing had a splendid equipment and training. He first went to Traer, Tama county, Iowa, and there spent six years before settling in Webster City, where he has been active for over twenty-five years, during which time his practice has reached gratifying proportions. Medical ability soon gains recognition and it is the simple foundation of Dr. Whitley's success. Always a close and earnest student of the underlying principles of medicine, he keeps in touch with the most advanced thought of the profession and has personal contact with many of its most able representatives through his membership in the Central District Medical Association, of which he is an ex-president and vice president, in the Hamilton County Medical Association, of which he is also an ex-president, in the Iowa State Medical Society and the American Medical Association. He was also brought into close connection with a special phase of his work in Tama county, where he was trustee for the Hospital for the Insane, at Independence, for seven years and this interest he has carried forward into his later career, being now a member of the board of commissioners of insanity for Hamilton county.

Besides his private work Dr. Whitley gives a great deal of his time to the practice of medicine in connection with railroads. He is local surgeon for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad and his special interest in this line of work has led to his membership in the American Association of Railroad Surgeons and in the Surgical Association of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad. He is also examining surgeon for Company C, Iowa National Guard, and examiner for numerous life insurance companies of this district.

On January 2, 1883, in Webster City, Dr. Whitley was united in marriage to Miss Cora Call, a daughter of Rev. L. N. Call, and they have three children: Gladys, a graduate of Iowa State University and the wife of Varrick C. Crosby; Grace, also a graduate of the State University; and Guyon.

Dr. Whitley gives his allegiance to the republican party and although never active as an office seeker, he has done able and effective work along the lines of his interests. In Tama county he was for several years school director and was for some time health officer of Webster City. In this capacity his work was an important factor in the spread of knowledge of the value of health, the effect upon it of sanitation, exercise and general cleanliness. During the many years of his residence in the city he has attained a success which in itself is a proof of his ability and his practice, although definitely established, is continually increasing as the quality of his work becomes more widely known.

GUY SOWERS.

Hamilton county numbers among its citizens many progressive and enterprising farmers, who were born and reared upon the acres which they are cultivating and who are carrying on farming along lines of development inaugurated by their fathers and grandfathers. Guy Sowers, who is operating a homestead of forty acres of fine land in Ellsworth township, is an agriculturist of this type. He was born August 1, 1873, a son of Lindsey and Rebecca E. (Ward) Sowers, who were among the earliest settlers in Hamilton county. The father was born in Fountain county, Indiana, December 25, 1833, and died in Ellsworth township upon his farm March 4, 1911. The mother of our subject was born in Crawford county, Ohio, December 12, 1839, and came to Ellsworth township with her husband in the fall of 1856. Here her death occurred February 12, 1898. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Lindsey Sowers were eight children: Laura, born June 4, 1863, who died March 26, 1865; Albert, who was born March 25, 1865; Henry, born October 21, 1866, who died May 26, 1867; Pearly, whose birth occurred May 18, 1868; Mrs. Mary Hughes, who was born February 7, 1871; Guy, of this review; Planey, born January 29, 1876; and Charles, whose natal day was May 16, 1878. All of the children were born and raised in Ellsworth township and are still residing there.

Guy Sowers attended the public schools of his native section and since laying aside his books has given his entire attention to general farming and well drilling. He owns forty acres of land on section 33. Ellsworth township, and to their cultivation brings long experience

in the details of farming. His soil is fertile and productive and he gathers rich harvests every year as the reward for the intelligent care and labor which he bestows upon his place. His methods are modern and his farm is equipped with the most approved machinery. He lives in a comfortable and well furnished home upon his property and has many friends in this district where he is well known and prominent.

Mr. Sowers married Miss Maggie Henderson, who was born in Scott township, January 9, 1880. She attended the public schools of her native section and remained at home until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Sowers have three children, all natives of Ellsworth township: Bessie, born August 30, 1899; Irma, who was born May 30, 1902; and Sarah, whose birth occurred December 24, 1909. The two eldest daughters are attending school in the community. The wife of our subject is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, of Randall.

Mr. Sowers gives his allegiance to the democratic party but never seeks public office, preferring to devote his entire time to his agricultural pursuits. His farm is intelligently operated and responds to the careful supervision and practical methods of its owner in increased productiveness, so that Mr. Sowers is classed among the enterprising and successful farmers of Hamilton county.

REV. MICHAEL K. NORTON.

Rev. Michael K. Norton, pastor of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic church of Webster City, was born in Painesville, Ohio, May 12, 1856. His parents were John and Mary (Codde) Norton, both of whom came to the United States when quite young. They resided in Ohio until after their marriage and then removed to Wisconsin, where they still make their home.

Father Michael K. Norton was quite young at the time of the removal to the Badger state, in the public schools of which he acquired his early education. He afterward attended St. Francis Seminary of Milwaukee and pursued his philosophical studies in St. Joseph College at Dubuque, Iowa. He was ordained for the priesthood on the 28th of May, 1882, by Bishop Hennessey and was assigned to duty for three months in Clinton, Iowa. He then took charge of the mission and remained in that capacity for five years. His field of labor included the towns of Spencer, Spirit Lake and Estherville, Iowa, in each of which he succeeded in organizing a good congregation and in

erecting houses of worship. He was next sent to Allamakee county, Iowa in 1887 and for eighteen years thereafter was pastor in that county. In 1905 he came to Webster City as pastor of the church of St. Thomas Aquinas. His labors here have been marked by continuous progress. He has cleared off the church debt, has built the present parish house and has made other improvements in the church property, while the congregation has advanced steadily in spiritual growth. He has the good-will and high regard of his parishioners, who often come to him for temporal as well as spiritual advice. He is chaplain of the Knights of Columbus and those who meet him find that he possesses pleasing social qualities. His wide study has made him a broad-minded man and he keeps informed on many questions that affect the general interests of society.

MARSHALL HOMER BRINTON.

In all Hamilton county there was never a man more greatly loved than Marshall Homer Brinton. His memory is enshrined in the hearts of all who knew him. He was a most capable business man and won a substantial measure of success, but it was not success gained at the cost of another's failure. He ever followed constructive methods and as he builded for himself contributed also to the welfare and prosperity of the community. It was not his material advancement, however, that made Mr. Brinton so popular and so well liked. It was because he was a manly man, true to the highest principles, loyal to his friends, devoted to his family and unpretentiously but unhesitatingly faithful to his religious professions. The character which he builded is his best monument, for it left an indelible impress upon all with whom he came in contact, inspiring others to good deeds and to higher ideals.

Mr. Brinton was born in Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, on the 16th of September, 1856, his parents being Stephen Marshall and Mary (McGrew) Brinton. His early educational opportunities were supplemented by study in the Washington and Jefferson College of Washington, Pennsylvania. He lived the life of a farmer and financier and in all of his business connections displayed notable business ability, sagacity, enterprise and determination. He became a resident of Hamilton county in 1884 and in the interval to the time of his death, which occurred on the 6th of June, 1912, he man-



M. T. Brinton,

aged and controlled important business activities which resulted beneficially to the district at large as well as to himself. His investments in real estate were judiciously made and he became the owner of more than a thousand acres of fine farm land in Hamilton county in addition to farming properties in North and South Dakota and Minnesota. He was also the founder and president of the Ellsworth State Bank, making this a substantial financial institution which grew along healthful lines because of the safe, conservative business policy followed. Extending his financial connections still farther, he became one of the heavy stockholders and the president of the American Life Insurance Company of Des Moines and largely guided its policy, making it one of the most reliable and trustworthy enterprises of this character in the middle west. In all of his business career there was not a single esoteric phase. He was fair and honorable and straightforward in every relation. The splendid success that came to him was the merited and well earned reward of persistent labor, of sound judgment and unfaltering perseverance. Moreover, as he prospered he generously extended a helping hand to many a traveler on life's journey. A well known banker of the county said that probably no banker in all Iowa ever took more or greater chances loaning money to young men to start their business careers than Mr. Brinton, and many a business man now prosperous owes his present position in large measure to the aid which he received from Mr. Brinton at the outset of his career.

On the 13th of June, 1888, in Pennsylvania, Mr. Brinton was united in marriage to Miss Mary Jane Scott and unto them were born four children, Mary Inez, Scott Marshall, Edward Donald and May Esther. Mr. Brinton was a member of the Congregational church and for many years served as superintendent of the Sunday school at Ellsworth. He took active part in all lines of church work and contributed most generously to its support. But this was not all: this man of wealth and large business interests did not hold himself above doing the janitor work in the church when the congregation was struggling for an existence. He did not regard it as menial but rather as an honor to thus serve in promoting the cause of Christianity. He was a valued member of various fraternal organizations, having attained the thirty-second degree in Masonry, while also holding membership with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Mutual Brotherhood of America. Nor were duties of citizenship in any wise neglected. He realized the obligations as well as the privileges that de-

volved upon him as an American citizen and loyally supported the principles which he deemed of most benefit to the public, voting ever with the republican party, which in 1893 elected him to represent Hamilton county in the state legislature and indorsed his first term's service in a reelection in 1895. His political honesty equalled his business integrity, neither fear nor favor swerving him from a course which he believed to be right and just. Nor did he neglect local interests, for one of the home papers said: "All that Ellsworth is today it owes to M. H. Brinton, and every man, woman and child in that town and for many miles around loved and honored him as though he were a close relative." Young and old, rich and poor, called him Homer. This was indicative of the character of the man, his brotherly spirit, his unfaltering kindness, his helpful attitude toward all and his unfeigned cordiality and geniality. No funeral service in the county was ever more largely attended and no expression of grief was more extended and heartfelt than that manifested when M. H. Brinton passed away. All who knew him feel that he has passed on to a higher life with broader opportunities, joining "the choir invisible who live again in lives made better by their presence."

JAMES M. BELL.

James M. Bell is conducting an up-to-date grocery store at No. 921 Seneca street, Webster City, Iowa, and has gained during the years of his connection with this enterprise a reputation of the highest character for fair and honest dealing and true ability along this line. He was born in Webster county, Iowa, in 1855, and is a son of Alonzo and Sarah J. (Neese) Bell. His father was a native of Indiana and came to Webster county with his father, Isaac Bell, who was one of the pioneers in the early settlement of Iowa. He had two sons, Alonzo and Preston, both of whom have been prominent in various sections of Iowa from an early date. Alonzo Bell settled in Webster county in 1852 and his brother Preston was successful in Hamilton county as early as 1849. The Bell family have been prominent in business, commercial and social circles of Webster county for many years and Benjamin Bell, the great-grandfather of our subject was the first man buried in Vigers cemetery in that section. Alonzo Bell was married in Webster county and died there in 1903 at the age of sixty-nine years.

His wife passed away in 1857, when she was only twenty-one years of age.

James M. Bell was reared at home and educated in the public schools of Webster and Story counties. His early life was spent upon the farm which his father was operating and he was active in agricultural lines until 1876 in which year he attained his majority and purchased property for himself in Story county which he developed and improved for four years. In 1880 he made a journey to the American northwest and located in Vancouver, Washington, where he was employed in a general merchandise store for seven years. He eventually returned to Story county to his original farm and spent two years as an agriculturist in that section followed by a like period of activity in Hamilton county. In 1891 he again went to Vancouver, where he engaged in various lines of mercantile endeavor until 1900, when he returned to Webster City and after spending four years in various capacities established his present grocery business in 1904. He has been identified with this concern since that time and each year has seen a marked advancement in his prosperity.

In 1888 Mr. Bell was united in marriage to Miss Ella S. Storey, a daughter of O. W. Storey, of Hamilton county, who was one of the representative and enterprising agriculturists of that region until his death in 1887, when he was sixty-five years of age. His wife survived him until 1905, dying at the age of eighty-two. To Mr. and Mrs. James M. Bell have been born two children: Ernest C., born in 1892; and Esther I., whose birth occurred in 1895. They reside with their parents at No. 921½ Seneca street, Webster City.

Mr. Bell has been successful as a grocer because he buys and sells the right goods at the right prices and is systematic in his expenditures. He is prosperous and honored for his business integrity and sagacity, which qualities are the basis of his successful career as a merchant.

CASH & LEHNHARD.

The clothing and tailoring establishment of Cash & Lehnhard, one of the leading enterprises of the kind in Webster City and Hamilton county, was established in 1869 by F. I. Cash, the father of the senior partner of the firm as it now exists. He had as a partner a Mr. Smith and later was joined in the business by W. W. Wells. This partnership was maintained for about two years, after which F. I. Cash

conducted his tailoring establishment alone until 1890, when he was joined by his son, F. F. Cash, who has been connected with the business from that time to the present. The partnership between father and son still exists under the style of F. I. Cash & Son and prosperity attended the undertaking as it had previously done. In 1900 Fred F. Cash and L. A. Lehnhard became partners in the clothing business under the firm name of Lehnhard & Company, which in 1909 was changed to Cash & Lehnhard. They opened a men's furnishing store and carry ready-made clothing and also conduct a merchant tailoring business. The latter is presided over by Emil Beck, acknowledged to be one of the best cutters and tailors in Iowa. Mr. Cash spends much of his time upon the road soliciting trade, and the patronage of the house is steadily growing. The partners are men of recognized business ability, enterprising, alert, active and determined, and their even-paced energy is carrying them steadily forward to success.

Fred F. Cash was born in Webster City, Iowa, in 1869, his parents being F. I. and Nancy A. (Johnson) Cash. The father's birth occurred in Danville, Indiana, November 20, 1832, and in 1867 he wedded Miss Nancy Johnson, who was born in Harrison county, Ohio, in 1835. They became the parents of three children, Maud A., Fred F. and Emma M. The elder daughter is now the wife of W. R. Ryan, of Webster City, and Emma M. is the wife of R. E. Towle, of Boston, Massachusetts. The father died in 1904, having for almost a quarter of a century survived his first wife, who passed away in 1880. Both were laid to rest in the cemetery of Webster City. The father was again married and is survived by his second wife, who bore the maiden name of Harriett Johnson and is living in Webster City. Throughout the period of his residence here F. I. Cash maintained an enviable place and reputation in business circles, having the warm regard of many friends, for he was ever found trustworthy and reliable.

Fred F. Cash has practically spent his entire life in Webster City, pursuing his education in its public schools and here passing the period of his boyhood. Since starting out in the business world he has been connected with tailoring, clothing and the sale of men's furnishing goods. He became associated with his father, under whom he received his business training, and since 1890 has been a partner in the store.

In 1907 Mr. Cash was united in marriage to Miss Linda Bartlett, of Disco, Wisconsin, a daughter of L. and Jennie (O'Hearn) Bartlett. Her father was engaged in farming and the implement business at Melrose, Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Cash have become the parents of one son, Frank Jackson Bartlett, who was born March 20, 1909.

Louis Lehnhard, junior partner in the firm of Cash & Lehnhard, was born in Ohio, June 17, 1875, and is a son of Louis C. and Mary (Blankenbuhler) Lehnhard. The father was also a native of Ohio, while the mother's birth occurred in Pennsylvania. In their family were two sons and one daughter. In the schools of his native state Louis Lehnhard acquired his education and in 1890 he came with his mother to Iowa. The following year he entered the employ of F. I. Cash and with the reorganization of the business was admitted to partnership in 1900. He is a practical tailor and thoroughly understands the business in every phase and detail. In manner he is social and genial and one with whom it is a pleasure to trade.

In December, 1900, Mr. Lehnhard was married to Miss Martha M. Young, a daughter of J. W. Young, and they have become the parents of two children: Margaret L., born July 22, 1903; and Mary F., December 8, 1905. Both partners are well known and representative business men of Webster City, where they have long resided. They give close and unremitting attention to their business affairs, and seek success along honorable lines by straightforward business methods.

ALBERT P. HOLT.

Albert P. Holt is one of the well known citizens of Ellsworth, Hamilton county, Iowa, and is numbered among the enterprising and successful farmers of the township in which he lives. He was born September 9, 1869, in Norway and is a son of Peter K. and Martha Holt, both of whom were natives of Norway. The parents emigrated to America in 1875, settling first in Illinois. In 1882 they removed to Iowa, where the father rented a farm and was engaged in the cultivation of that land for a period of six years. He then bought one hundred and eighty-five acres located on section 30, Lincoln township, Hamilton county, which he improved and on which he continued to reside until the time of his death, which occurred in 1904. The mother died in 1905 and she and her husband are buried in Homewood cemetery. They were the parents of eight children.

Albert P. Holt was reared in his parents' home and received his early education in the public schools. He remained under the parental roof until after the death of his parents, when in company with his brother, Bardinus P. Holt, he continued the cultivation of the home-stead until 1912, at which time his brother, who was the sixth child in

order of birth in his father's family, his birth having occurred August 5, 1864, became the owner of the old homestead, on which he has since continued to live. On June 15, 1896, Bardinus P. Holt was united in marriage to Miss Inga Olson and they became the parents of two children, both of whom died in infancy, while the mother's death occurred July 26, 1902. On September 29, 1904, the father was again married, his second union being with Miss Emily Olson, of Hamilton county. She was the youngest member of a family of six children and was born May 9, 1873. The two children of this marriage are Martha T. and Raymond P. Bertil Holt, the brother of the subject of this review, was born September 29, 1858, and now resides on his farm of one hundred and sixty acres located on section 30, Lincoln township, Hamilton county, which property he purchased in 1890. He was the fourth in line of birth in his father's family and was united in marriage in 1891 to Miss Helen Arre, a native of Norway. To their union five children were born, Martin, Adolph, Clarence, Otto and Helen. The mother of these children died in 1900 and in 1908 Mr. Holt wedded Miss Bartina Eik, of Norway, and they are the parents of two children, Berghat and Perry.

The three brothers, Albert P., Bardinus P. and Bertil Holt, are all engaged in general farming, each on his own land in Hamilton county. They belong to the republican party and are affiliated with the Norwegian Lutheran church. They are numbered among the substantial, reliable men of Hamilton county and have made a gratifying success in agricultural pursuits.

GEORGE O. PRESCOTT.

George O. Prescott, who owns and conducts a meat market, has been a resident of Ellsworth for more than twenty years, during which time he has been successfully identified with various commercial activities, and is numbered among the town's most capable business men. He was born in Norway on the 12th of October, 1874, and is a son of Odde and Curo (Prestgaard) Prescott. The parents still reside in Norway, where the father, who for many years followed the blacksmith's trade, is now living retired at the age of eighty, while the mother has passed the seventieth anniversary of her birth.

George O. Prescott was a youth of only seventeen years when he left his native land and emigrated to the United States, where he com-

pleted his education. He came direct to Hamilton county, and during the first year of his residence here was a member of a section crew on the railroad. He next obtained employment drilling wells, but after following this occupation for two years, he engaged in the same business for himself, and during the succeeding five years drilled sixty-six deep wells. At the expiration of that period he disposed of this business and purchased a livery barn and dray line, which he operated until 1899. In the latter year he likewise disposed of this enterprise and went into the restaurant business, but in 1903 he withdrew from the latter enterprise and turned his attention to commercial pursuits. For two years thereafter he engaged in the general mercantile business, but at the end of that period he sold his store and went back to Norway on a visit. Six months later he returned to Hamilton county and rented a farm, and for six years thereafter devoted his entire time and attention to agricultural pursuits with excellent success. During that period he purchased the meat market he now owns, hiring a man to operate it until March, 1911, when he left the farm and moved to town to take charge of his business. In 1910, he erected the fine two-story brick building, where his market is now located, and in April, 1911, he built his present residence, the two costing him about fifteen thousand dollars. His home is thoroughly modern in all of its appointments and is one of the very attractive places of the town. Mr. Prescott still engages in farming, cultivating the twenty-five acres of land where his residence is located in addition to eighty acres which he rents. He has manifested clear judgment and much sagacity in the direction of his undertakings and has met with a corresponding degree of prosperity. He has an interest in one hundred and twenty acres of land north of town, and owns stock in the Ellsworth Creamery and Ellsworth Telephone Company, having been one of the organizers of the latter.

In Chicago, on the 18th of February, 1908, Mr. Prescott was united in marriage to Miss Dora Tonneson, a daughter of Nels and Thora Tonneson, natives of Norway, and they have become the parents of two children: George Oliver, who is three years of age; and Melda Thelma, who has passed the first anniversary of her birth.

The parents affiliate with the Lutheran church, and fraternally Mr. Prescott is a member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, being identified with the Webster City lodge. His political allegiance he gives to the republican party and served for three years as road supervisor. He is one of the enterprising, progressive citizens of Ellsworth, where he is held in high esteem by reason of his upright prin-

ciples and honorable methods of conducting his transactions. Mr. Prescott has never had occasion to regret transferring his allegiance to this country, as he has found here the opportunities he sought and is prospering in his undertakings.

L. G. OMVIG.

L. G. Omvig is one of the most prosperous, enterprising and successful farmers in Ellsworth township and has been identified with agricultural pursuits since his early childhood. He was born upon the farm which he now operates January 8, 1879, a son of T. J. and Alice (Mason) Omvig, natives of Norway, who came to America, July 17, 1861, and settled on a farm near Morris, Illinois. From there they removed to Hamilton county, Iowa, upon the homestead now operated by their sons. They had twelve children: Mrs. Anna Osman, whose home is at Story City; John, a resident of Hardy; Mrs. Martha Malmanger, who lives at Ames; Thomas, a resident of Hardy; Mrs. Inger Stout, of Jewell, Iowa; L. G.; Mrs. Ellen Malmanger, of Crookston, Minnesota; Mrs. Bertha Sylvester, of Crookston, Minnesota; Mrs. Louise Stout, of Clear Lake township; Edward, who resides with the subject of this sketch on the old home farm; Martin, of Story City; and Emil, of Hardy. Anna and John were born near Norway, Benton county, Iowa, and the younger children were born in Ellsworth township, Hamilton county.

L. G. Omvig attended the district schools of his native section and from an early date aided his father in the work of the farm, gaining thus a detailed and valuable knowledge of methods and standards of operation. In 1909 he and his brother Edward took charge of the old homestead of two hundred acres in Ellsworth township and are engaged in its improvement and operation, bringing to their agricultural pursuits experienced knowledge and the business ability to make this knowledge effective. They have one of the finest farms in the district and are ranked among the most important and progressive agriculturists in Ellsworth township.

Mr. Omvig was married in 1901 to Miss Belle Olson, who was born in Clear Lake township, Hamilton county, March 16, 1881. Her father, Benedict Olson, was born in Norway and is now residing in Clear Lake township, in the seventy-third year of his age. Her mother, Tillie Olson, is also a native of Norway and is seventy-two years old.

The parents came to America in 1871 and were among the earliest settlers in Hamilton county. To them eight children were born: Mrs. Ora Jackson, of Oklahoma; Mrs. Hannah Mathia, of Story City, Iowa; John, whose home is in Fargo, North Dakota; George, a resident of Sioux City, Iowa; Mrs. Ella Extrand, of Tacoma, Washington; Belle, the wife of our subject; Ivor, of Clear Lake township; and Benjamin, of Morehead, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Omvig have two children: Burnett Tilden, born April 22, 1902; and Arnold Byron, born November 25, 1907.

Mr. Omvig gives his allegiance to the republican party but has never been active as office seeker, preferring to devote his entire time to his farm. Upon it he raises high-grade cattle in addition to general farming and has been remarkably successful in this branch of his activities. The farm, which was a tract of wild prairie land when his parents settled in Hamilton county, is now one of the most highly improved in this section of the state and its owners are ranked among Ellsworth township's most prominent native sons.

DANIEL D. C. TEMPLER.

Daniel D. C. Templer was for many years one of the most prominent and valued residents of Hamilton county. He lived in this section for over a quarter of a century and was closely identified with its business and agricultural interests. He died upon his farm in Ellsworth township, October 17, 1897, having by that time accomplished a distinct and substantial success. Mr. Templer was born in Schenectady county, New York, May 2, 1838, a son of William and Ann (Staley) Templer, natives of New York, both of whom died in that state. Members of the Staley family, however, were among the earliest settlers in Hamilton county. Mr. and Mrs. Templer had three sons, all of whom have passed away, Oliver, Daniel D. C. and William. All of the children in this family were born and reared in New York.

Daniel D. C. Templer received his education in the public schools of the Empire state and was twenty-nine years of age when he left home. In 1867 he went west and settled in Hardin county, Iowa, where he remained for three years, coming to Ellsworth township, Hamilton county, in 1870. He purchased one hundred and seven acres of land on section 15 and improved and operated this property until

his death. His methods were practical and progressive and consequently productive of good results and his farm is one of the finest in this section of the state. He gave all of his time and attention to its development for over twenty-five years and upon it he passed away October 17, 1897, in the fifty-ninth year of his age.

Mr. Templer was united in marriage to Miss Nancy Ennis, who was born in Princeton, New York, December 8, 1845, a daughter of Joseph and Ruth Ann (Norris) Ennis, natives of New York, who died in that state. In their family were five children besides the wife of our subject, Robert, Nathaniel, William, Jennie and Maggie. Of these one daughter and two sons still survive. Mr. and Mrs. Templer became the parents of six children: Mrs. Ann Sowers, residing in Ellsworth township; Jane, who is engaged in teaching school and who is residing with her mother on the home farm; Ettie, who is employed as assistant in a photographer's office in Des Moines; Maggie, who died October 14, 1910; Cammie; and Archie. The two oldest are cultivating the homestead and Archie has recently purchased eighty acres adjoining his father's farm.

Mr. Templer gave his allegiance to the democratic party and was intelligently interested in the growth and progress of his section. He was a man of broad culture and had gained a liberal mind and a breadth of view by constant and well selected reading. His love of books was one of the vital interests of his life and he was familiar with the choicest literature of modern times. Public enterprises looking toward further growth and advancement found in him a loyal supporter and his intelligent comprehension of local conditions enabled him to make his public spirit effective. Those who mourn his departure remember also his integrity of character, his kindness and his honorable and upright life.

FRED C. RUNKLE.

In his chosen lifework as an educator Fred C. Runkle has made a most excellent record, and the consensus of public opinion places him with those residents of Patterson, who have had greatest influence in molding the intellectual, political and moral development of the city. He was born in Madison county, Iowa, April 15, 1876, and in September, 1902, became a resident of Hamilton county. His father, Thomas Runkle, a native of Virginia, came of German ancestry, the

family being founded in America in 1751. In his boyhood Thomas Runkle accompanied his parents on their removal to Indiana and in October, 1851, arrived in Madison county, Iowa, taking an active part in its early development. He wedded Mary A. Berry, who was born in Indiana, of Kentucky parentage, and became a resident of Madison county in 1854.

In the acquirement of his education Professor Runkle attended the Patterson high school, the Ackworth Academy and the Iowa State Teachers College. He has remained throughout life a student, broad reading and wide study continually promoting his knowledge and increasing his efficiency in the educational field. He began teaching in the rural schools of Madison county in 1895. Later he became principal of the Patterson schools, had charge of the Stanhope school for eight years and is now serving for the third year as principal of the Ellsworth schools. For four years he was editor of the Stanhope Mail. He has made an excellent record as an educator, imparting in clear and concise manner the knowledge that he has acquired and at all times stimulating in his pupils a desire for further intellectual progress. He studies the specific needs of the individual and he inspires teachers and pupils with much of his own zeal and interest in the work.

On the 19th of June, 1903, in Stanhope, Iowa, Professor Runkle was married to Miss Mabel M. Jenkins, a native of Fayette county, Iowa, and a daughter of F. R. Jenkins. Her grandfather, Major Jenkins, a native of Vermont, followed the lake route westward, walked through the Wisconsin wilderness and settled in Iowa in 1835. He was driven out by hostile Indians but returned in 1837 and became one of the honored pioneer residents of this state, aiding in its reclamation for the purposes of civilization. Professor and Mrs. Runkle have become the parents of two little daughters: Maurine, aged three; and Maxine, aged one. The parents hold membership in the Church of Christ, in which Professor Runkle has held the offices of clerk, deacon and elder, taking an active and helpful interest in all parts of the church work. He is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America and has served as adviser and counsel of the local camp. His military record covers three years spent as a member of Company G. Fifty-fifth Regiment of the Iowa National Guard.

While not a politician in the usually accepted sense of the term, he has served as mayor of Patterson and gave to the city faithful service, his administration being characterized by practical reform and improvement. He is a progressive republican, actively interested in the party, holding with its prominent leaders that each year should show

advancement made along political lines whereby the interests of the public at large would be conserved and heightened. Professor Runkle is a recognized leader among those seeking continuous improvement, nor is he ever willing to accept the second best.

ALBERT J. PETERSON.

On the roster of county officials appears the name of Albert J. Peterson, who in November, 1910, was elected to the office of county auditor after having previously filled out an unexpired term. He was born in Sweden, December 17, 1864. His parents, John A. and Anna Peterson, came to the United States with their family in 1868, settling first in Illinois, but in 1870 they removed to Webster county, Iowa, taking up their abode upon a farm which continued to be their home until the mother's death in 1901 when sixty-nine years of age. The father has since lived with a son in Calhoun county, Iowa.

Albert J. Peterson was not yet four years of age when the emigration to the United States was made and in the schools of Knoxville, Illinois, he pursued his education, attending college there for a time. It was necessary, however, for him to go to work and in 1889 he entered the employ of a coal company in Webster county, Iowa, remaining with them for two years. In 1891 he removed to Pomeroy, Iowa, where he engaged in merchandising on his own account for two years. He then sold out and became cashier of the Bank of Modale, Iowa, in which capacity he continued until 1899. He next spent a year in Alaska, after which he returned to Webster City in 1900. For several years thereafter he was employed as a clerk or as a traveling salesman, but in 1907 changed his active interests by accepting an appointment as deputy county auditor, which office he continued to fill until he became deputy county treasurer. He served in that capacity from January 1, 1909, until January 1, 1910, when he was appointed county auditor to fill a vacancy for the term ending on the 1st of January, 1911. In the previous November he was elected to the office for a term of two years that will continue until the 1st of January, 1913. He is making a creditable record in this connection and loyalty and progressiveness have ever characterized his official service.

In 1897, at Webster City, Mr. Peterson was united in marriage to Miss Annie Wonders, a daughter of William and Catherine Won-

ders, of Webster county, this state. Her father is an agriculturist and coal mining operator. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson reside at No. 408 First street and their home is justly celebrated for its warm-hearted hospitality.

Mr. Peterson belongs to Acacia Lodge, No. 176, F. & A. M., and is a past master of Acmode Lodge, No. 412, of Modale, Iowa. He also belongs to Hope Chapter, No. 88, R. A. M., in which he is serving as high priest; to Triune Commandery, No. 41, K. T.; Elmo Lodge, No. 62, I. O. O. F., and to Purity Lodge of Rebekahs in Webster City. He is likewise connected with the Country Club and the Commercial League and is much interested in the work of the last named in its efforts to advance business activity and promote the progress and upbuilding of Webster City. Mr. Peterson possesses many of the sterling characteristics of the Swedish nation, including the determination, perseverance and integrity which have usually characterized the people of that kingdom.

WILLIAM H. MINARD.

William H. Minard, who is engaged in the drug and jewelry business at Jewell Junction, has been a resident of Williams for three years. He was born in Livingston county, Illinois, on the 7th of June, 1865, and is a son of Levi and Phoebe A. (Hall) Minard. The father was born in St. Thomas, Canada, but in his early manhood came to Illinois, where he met and married Miss Hall, a native of La Salle county, that state. The father is now deceased, having passed away in Williams, but the mother is still living and makes her home in South Dakota with a daughter. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Minard numbered five: Charles, who was born on November 20, 1858, died at the age of six years; George A., whose birth occurred September 12, 1860, a resident of Ellendale, North Dakota; Fred, who was born on the 7th of October, 1862, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; William H., our subject; and Mrs. Cora E. Rick, who was born on the 30th of July, 1874, and is residing in South Dakota. All of the family are natives of Illinois with the exception of Mrs. Rick, whose birth occurred in Rose Grove township. They resided in Illinois until October, 1869, when they crossed the prairies to Iowa, making the journey in a covered wagon, as at that time there were no railroads west of Chicago. Upon their arrival here they settled on a farm in Rose Grove township, where the

father continued in agricultural pursuits during the remainder of his active life.

William H. Minard was a child of only four years, when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Iowa. He was reared to manhood in Hamilton county, obtaining his education in the common schools. In common with the majority of country youths he early became familiar with the practical methods of agriculture, devoting his energies to general farming and stock-raising in Rose Grove township until 1909. In March of that year he withdrew from the work of the fields and removed to Williams. About the same time he became associated with H. L. Dow in the drug business at Story City. They conducted this enterprise until October, 1911, when they disposed of it and engaged in the drug and jewelry business at Jewell Junction. They have an attractive store, and as they carry a well assorted stock in both departments are enjoying a lucrative trade. Mr. Minard still owns one hundred and twenty acres of land in Rose Grove township, which is well improved and highly cultivated. He is a man of enterprising and progressive methods and was instrumental in laying the first successful drainage ditch in Hamilton county, which has ever since been known as Minard's ditch.

In this county on the 22d of May, 1889, Mr. Minard was united in marriage to Miss Ella A. McCue, who was born at Amboy, Illinois, May 15, 1864, and is a daughter of Lawrence and Anna (Fox) McCue, natives of Ireland. The family removed from Illinois to Iowa, settling in Hamilton county, in 1875. Mrs. Minard is the third in order of birth in a family, as follows: Mrs. Anna Gilday, who is residing in Fort Dodge, Iowa; Mrs. Mary Ball, of Chicago; Mrs. Minard; Thomas, who died in the vicinity of Fort Dodge; Mrs. Kate Wilkinson, of Williams; Lawrence, station agent for the Illinois Central Railroad Company at Nashua, Iowa; Bart, who resides in Oregon; and John, whose whereabouts are unknown. They are all natives of Amboy, Illinois.

Mr. Minard was reared in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal denomination, but Mrs. Minard is a communicant of the Roman Catholic church. Fraternally he is a member of Alamo Lodge, No. 547, A. F. & A. M., of Williams; Silver Link Lodge, No. 458, I. O. O. F., also of Williams; and he belongs to the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks at Webster City. He votes the republican ticket and has served as trustee of Rose Grove township and also as school director. When Mr. Minard came to Iowa with his parents Hamilton county was but sparsely settled, the greater portion of its acreage being prairie land.

and during the intervening years he has not only been an interested observer of the marvelous changes wrought by the enterprise and diligence of the settlers, but has contributed his quota toward forwarding its agricultural and commercial development.

GEORGE D. DOYLE.

George D. Doyle is a well known resident of Williams, and a member of one of Hamilton county's pioneer families. He was born in Albany, New York, on the 1st of January, 1864, and is a son of Patrick and Mary (Nash) Doyle, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of Canada. In 1865, the family removed to Julien, Dubuque county, Iowa, which was their place of residence for four years. At the expiration of that time, in 1869, they came to Hamilton county, settling in Williams, which at that period contained but one house north of the railroad. Here both parents passed away at the age of sixty-nine years, the father's death occurring in 1906 and that of the mother in 1902. To them were born the following children, those beside our subject, who is the second in order of birth, being: J. H., who is a resident of Seattle, Washington; Carrie, the wife of C. E. Kane, of Williams; F. A., also living in Williams; Marcella, the deceased wife of Thomas Tilghman, her death occurring in Williams; Honor, who married Fielding Woods, of Williams; Stephen, who resides in North Dakota; Elizabeth, now Mrs. J. M. Murphy, of Waterloo; and a daughter, who died in infancy. The father was previously married and to him and his first wife was born one daughter, Ellen, now Mrs. James McCue, a resident of Waterloo, Iowa, and a native of Ireland.

George D. Doyle was only an infant when his parents settled in Dubuque county and a child of five years when they came to Williams. He obtained his education in the public schools and subsequently engaged in railroad work, but later turned his attention to farming. In 1912 he moved into the comfortable residence he owns in Williams, surrounded by eleven and a quarter acres of land.

In 1877 Mr. Doyle was married to Miss Margaret Franklin, who was born in Dixon, Lee county, Illinois, on June 9, 1866, and is a daughter of John and Bridget Franklin. The parents are both natives of Ireland, but were among the early settlers of Hamilton county and now make their home in Williams. The father was for a long period engaged in farming in this vicinity, but is now living retired at the

venerable age of seventy-six years, while the mother is seventy-five. Mrs. Doyle is the eldest of the six children born to her parents, the others in order of birth being as follows: William, a resident of Williams, whose birth occurred on February 22, 1868; Mary, now Mrs. F. A. Doyle, of Williams, whose natal day was the 23d of October, 1870; John, who was born on July 5, 1872, of Williams; Thomas, whose birth occurred on the 23d of October, 1874, also a resident of Williams; and Nellie, who was born on June 2, 1879, of Sioux City, Iowa. With the exception of the last named they were all born in Dixon, Lee county, Illinois, but were reared and educated in Hamilton county.

Mr. and Mrs. Doyle are the parents of twelve children, all of whom are residing in Williams: George Arthur, whose birth occurred on January 26, 1888; John Henry, who was born in Cherokee, Iowa, February 3, 1890, a carpenter by trade; May, the wife of B. H. Simpson, whose birth occurred at Fort Dodge, Iowa, on the 19th of February, 1892; James, who was born March 13, 1894; Carrie, whose birth occurred on January 23, 1896; Leslie, born December 6, 1897; Vincent, who was born on the 22d of January, 1900; Florence, whose natal day was January 22, 1902; William Edward, whose birth occurred on December 1, 1903; Frances, who was born on the 13th of April, 1906; Everett, whose birth occurred March 10, 1908, and his death at the age of twenty-two months; and Margaret, who was born on the 16th of March, 1910. The older members of the family were reared and educated in Hamilton county.

The parents are communicants of the Roman Catholic church, in the faith of which denomination they have reared their children. Fraternally Mr. Doyle is affiliated with Jungle Camp, 1844, M. W. A.; Silver Link Lodge, No. 458, I. O. O. F.; and Alamo Lodge, No. 547, A. F. & A. M. His political allegiance he accords the republican party and has served as township trustee. He is public-spirited and enterprising and both he and his family are highly esteemed in Williams, where the Doyle and Franklin families are well known, having located here when a large portion of Hamilton county was nothing but prairie, and during the intervening years have contributed their quota toward forwarding its progress and development.

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